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THE TIMES

No. 64,564 WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 10 1993 SL 45p

Tebbit backs Labour to spur Maastricht revolt

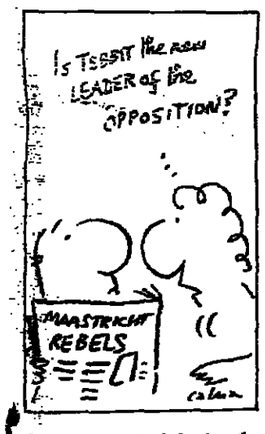
The government's majority is under threat as the Liberal Democrats and dissident Tories urged on by Lord Tebbit join forces to support Labour's amendment on the social chapter

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN Major is facing a knife-edge vote that could leave the Maastricht treaty in chaos after the Liberal Democrats and several Tory Eurosceptics announced last night that they would vote with Labour on a key amendment.

As government whips began mobilising support for a vote that could again become an issue of confidence in Mr Major's leadership, Lord Tebbit prepared to encourage Conservative rebels to side with Labour on the social chapter, which strengthens workers' rights and imposes new costs on business.

The former Conservative party chairman will today seek to convince them that they can square their hostility to the chapter with support for a Labour amendment that apparently endorses it, arguing



that the very act of altering the Maastricht bill would leave the treaty in ruins.

Labour and the Liberal Democrats insist, however, that a British vote in favour of the social chapter would be speedily accommodated by the rest of the EC. Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat president, said: "We will have no hesitation in voting with Labour on the social chapter because we have always opposed the government's irresponsible decision to opt out of it. The advice we have had so far indicates that there is no obstacle to Britain opting back in — the rest of Europe would dearly like us to."

His statement came as a blow to the government in the wake of John Smith's announcement during an interview with *The Times* that Labour was prepared to inflict a defeat on the government over the chapter. The Foreign Office minister Tristan Garel-Jones wrote to the Liberal Democrats only last week warning that if the amendment was carried, the treaty would be put back into the melting pot. The government may now delay the vote on the social chapter for up to six weeks to give it as much time as possible to beat off any revolt.

Senior ministers say that success for amendment 27 would lead to full-scale renegotiation of the treaty in which other member states would press for other changes. The laborious process of winning parliamentary approval would then have to begin again.

Government officials said it had not yet been decided whether the vote would be treated as a confidence issue, but whips say it would be "intolerable" for Tory MPs to vote with their opponents. One predicted the rebels would face serious trouble from constituency associations, which are seeing jobs coming to Britain because of its rejection of the social chapter.

With the government's majority standing at 21, it would in theory take only 11 Conservative MPs to vote against it for the government to suffer a calamitous defeat. In the last key test of Commons opinion on Maastricht, Mr Major's majority fell to three, with 26 Tories voting against him. Then, he had the support of the Liberal Democrats to see him through: Mr Kennedy's intervention last night ruled out that possibility this time.

Some rebels believe that they face having the Conservative whip withdrawn from them if they commit what many of their colleagues will regard as a betrayal of Tory values and the prime minister. But the hard core showed no sign last night of backing down. James Cran, MP for Beverley and one of the organisers of November's Commons revolt, said: "My colleagues and I have not come all this way to stumble at the last fence."

Sir Teddy Taylor, MP for Southend East, sought to lay the ground for Lord Tebbit's speech to the Commons press gallery today by issuing a three-page briefing note defending the rebels' stance. He denied that voting for the amendment would mean the rebels were backing the social chapter, saying: "The amendment simply makes it more difficult for the 11 other countries to implement the social chapter. Anything we can do to make it more difficult to go ahead with Maastricht is well worth while."

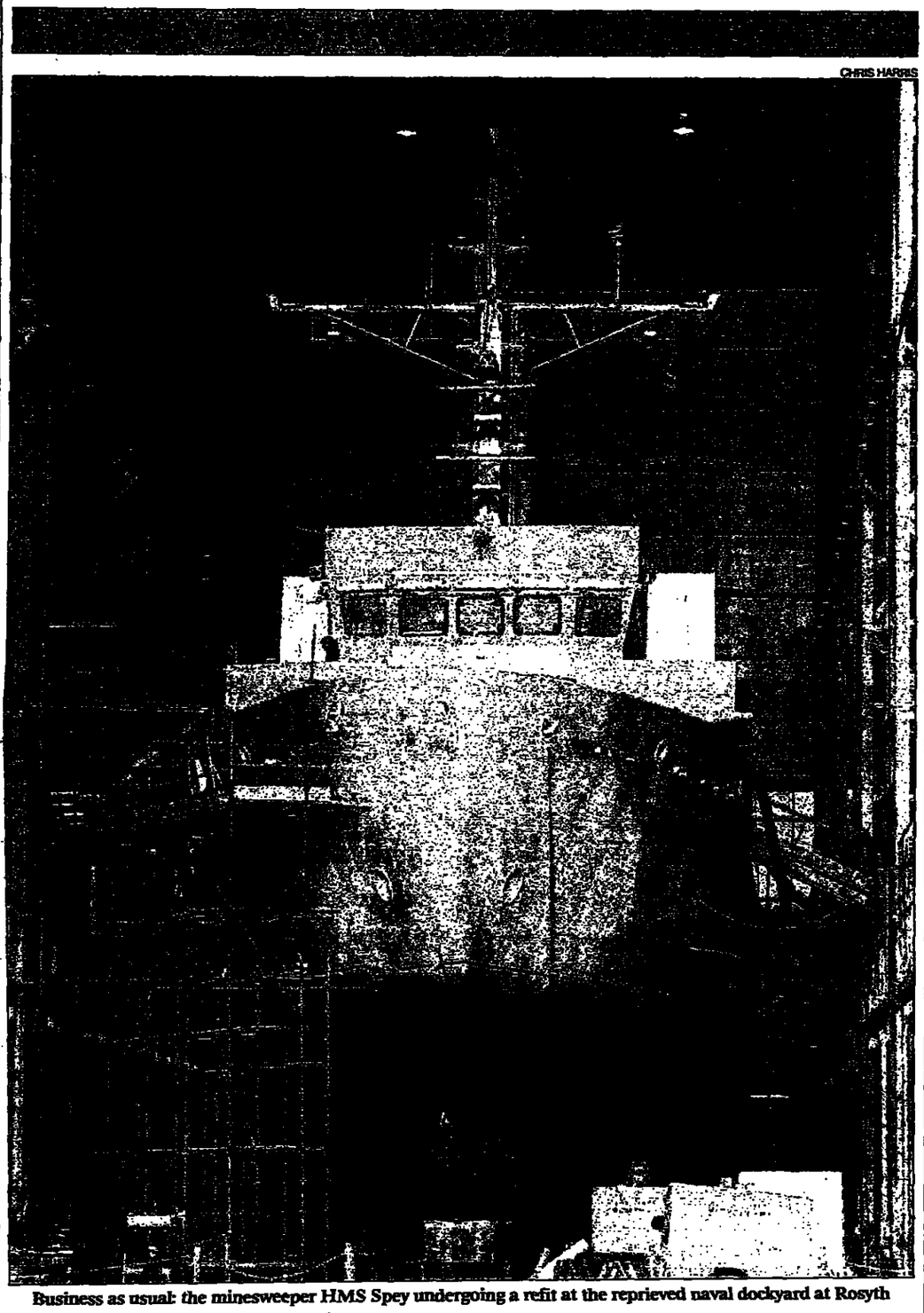
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CHRIS HARRIS

Business as usual: the minesweeper HMS Spey undergoing a refit at the reprieved naval dockyard at Rosyth

Rifkind urged to halt army cuts

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND SHEILA GUNN

THE government moved yesterday to safeguard thousands of jobs at Britain's two royal dockyards as ministers came under pressure from MPs to reverse all the cuts planned in army manpower.

Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, announced in the Commons that Rosyth and Devonport dockyards would be kept open, although he delayed a decision on which is to win the crucial Trident submarine refit contract. Both yards say their future depends on the Trident work. Yesterday's decision will bring short-term relief to the 4,000 workers at Rosyth, but the government now faces a serious dilemma over defence cuts that seem likely to upset all three armed services.

Last week, Mr Rifkind saved four regiments from amalgamation to provide the army with two extra infantry battalions, at a cost of £80 million a year. But large cuts in equipment programmes are being planned to pay for the reprieved regiments and to meet the Treasury demand for a cut in the defence budget of £1.05 billion over the next two years. Closure of one of the dockyards, recommended by the navy, could have saved at least £150 million, providing much needed cash for equipment projects such as the planned £170 million helicopter carrier. The navy, whose fleet is being cut back, says there is no longer a need for two yards.

The compromise, aimed at giving both yards enough surface ship and submarine work to keep them in business, will be costly, according to naval industry sources. Devonport, which has 12 drydocks, compared with Rosyth's three, claims that big savings can be made by concentrating surface ship and submarine work at the Plymouth yard. Mr Rifkind said he was still unhappy with the bids from Babcock Thorn, which manages Rosyth, and Devonport Management. Rosyth initially quoted £267 million to build new docks compared with Devonport's £162 million offer to rebuild existing docks. Rosyth then produced a bid of £147 million to convert old docks.

Sources at the Devonport yard spoke scathingly of the government's "failure" to

Continued on page 2, col 1
Army cuts, page 4

Dutch sanction euthanasia

FROM JEROME SOCOLOVSKY IN THE HAGUE

THE Dutch parliament voted yesterday to permit mercy killing under strict guidelines, making the Netherlands the first industrialised nation to sanction officially voluntary euthanasia for the incurably ill. The legislation was approved by 91 to 45 votes.

Euthanasia has long been tolerated in the country, and the vote gives the practice a degree of legal sanction. The measure does not formally legalise euthanasia, which is still punishable by up to 12 years in prison. Instead, it codifies existing medical guidelines approved by parliament as a defence against criminal liability for physicians practising euthanasia. Those who follow the guidelines, although they still would be technically violating the law, will be guaranteed immunity from prosecution.

The guidelines stipulate that a request for euthanasia be made personally by the patient, not by family or friends. The patient must be suffering unbearable and incurable pain, request death repeatedly, and be in a clear state of mind. A second medical opinion must be obtained.

The guidelines must be approved by the parliament's upper house later this year and receive the crown seal, but both are considered formalities. *(AP)*

Liberal fast lane, page 9

£300,000 'lost' from British Council funds

POLICE are investigating the disappearance of some £300,000 from accounts of the British Council, promoter of the nation's cultural interests overseas (Christopher Elliott and Angela Mackay write).

Some of the main clearing banks have been told to watch out for five-figure cheques which have been drawn legally from the council's account and then passed through fictitious accounts. Senior officials at the British Council have called in detectives, who are interviewing staff in an attempt to trace the money.

Only a handful of the council's most senior executives are aware of the scale of the alleged fraud. After an internal enquiry they decided to bring in the police last week.

Police called in, page 3

Divorced men face big rises in child support

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

DIVORCED men face huge increases in payments for their children under a new system of assessing and collecting maintenance.

Under the Child Support Act 1991, a central agency will from April ensure fathers maintain their children. It is predicted that the average maintenance payment ordered by the agency will be £30 to £40 a week, double the average order now. Lawyers specialising in family law said yesterday that the act could prompt a surge in disputes over how much contact divorced fathers should have with children, as well as applications by men to pay lower maintenance to former wives.

James Holman QC, chairman of the 1,000-strong Family Law Bar Association, said there were concerns over how the act would work in practice. In recent years, couples have made "clean break" orders on the basis of no maintenance for the wife, and perhaps nominal or small maintenance for the children. Under the act, officials will assess child maintenance according to a strict formula.

Former wives will be able to go to the agency and obtain a full maintenance order which "may undermine the spirit of settlement agreed with their husbands several years before", Mr Holman said.

Mr Holman also predicted a surge of applications by divorced fathers to reduce maintenance payments to wives. Under the act, the amount of maintenance may be affected by how much contact a man has with his children, so he might seek increased contact to reduce his maintenance bill. Mr Holman also predicted a rise in disputes over paternity.

Disputes feared, page 5

Inflation fears lead to jitters on money markets

BY JANET BUSH ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STERLING tumbled to another set of record lows yesterday and shares slumped over fears that the currency's huge devaluation since September is leading to higher inflation, which may dissuade the government from cutting interest rates again.

The government released figures for last month which showed that the pound's fall has pushed up import prices and helped to raise industry's costs by 7 per cent compared to a year ago. The government pointed to evidence that manufacturers have not, however, passed substantial price rises on to their customers and hailed this as a sign that inflationary pressures in the economy remain subdued.

The price of goods at the factory gate was 3.5 per cent higher last month than a year ago, the same annual rate of increase as seen in December. Anthony Nelson, economic secretary at the Treasury, noted that factory-gate prices remained low and repeated recent assertions that the government "remains committed to the fight against inflation and will take whatever steps are necessary to control it".

Some voices in the City did not share the government's assessment of the risks of inflation. Nigel Richardson, of Yamaichi, said it was not surprising that companies were not raising prices at the moment because demand for their products remained weak. He added that the situation might be quite different in six months' time.

"It doesn't happen quickly but it happens. Eventually, higher import prices will find their way on to the high street," he said.

Seven Wise Men, page 19
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Twice daily she rushes back home.



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Government faces financial disaster with funding pressures weighing down a depressed economy

Major outlines spending rethink as cash crisis looms

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister yesterday outlined to the Commons the thinking behind the most fundamental review of public spending since the early 1980s, which could radically change the shape of public provision by the next century.

"The government spends over £250 billion a year of taxpayers' money," Mr Major said. "It is necessary to look very closely at how that money is spent, where it is spent and to ensure we get the best possible value for every pound that is spent."

A range of pressures, magnified by the recession, has forced the government into a comprehensive study of every Whitehall department. Manifesto pledges to increase spending on health services in real terms and to raise child benefit and state pensions in line with inflation commit the government to huge increases in spending in the next four years.

Against this Mr Major is struggling to keep to his commitment of "making further progress" to lowering the basic rate of tax to 20p.

The government spends £14.5 billion on the jobless, about £350 million for every 100,000 people unemployed, with the result that public borrowing is expected to approach £50 billion next year. The number of elderly people is also increasing, putting particular pressure on health and social security budgets.

The Treasury claims that current pressure on finances is largely due to the cyclical effects of the recession. However, some independent commentators blame the current economic crisis on a misreading of growth trends in the mid to late 1980s.

Confident that the high growth rates during that period would continue into the 1990s, the last Conservative government cut taxes too quickly and increased public spending too generously, they argue.

SOCIAL SECURITY

THE social security budget, which accounts for a third of public spending, will be subjected to enormous pressure in the short and long term. Public spending on benefits is already expected to rise from £79.8 billion in 1993-4 to £87 billion in 1995-6, under existing plans that do not take account of unemployment projections.

Unemployment, currently costing the government £14.5 billion, will rise during the next 18 months to about 3.5 million people, adding at least £2.5 billion to the budget next year. Present social security estimates, based on 1991 costs, suggest that every 100,000 people unemployed costs £350m, but this is expected to rise to £500m with benefit rises due to be disclosed tomorrow.

Invalidity benefit, paid to the sick unemployed, has risen from £2.5 billion to £6 billion since 1987.

More than half of the £80 billion social security budget is spent on elderly people. The increase in the number of over-65s is predicted to slow during the next decade before rising again in the next century. The number of over-85s will rise significantly, however.

Peter Lilley, social security secretary, is now focusing on pension reforms that could lead to huge savings in the next century. Making the retirement age 65 for everyone would raise about £3 billion and changes to encourage people to opt out of the state pension could raise £7 billion, according to social security sources.

The government is acutely aware that the number of people working compared with those on state pensions is expected to fall dramatically in the next 30 years due to the increase in the number of elderly. In 1990 there were 3.4 people working for every pensioner but this is expected to drop to 3.1 in 2010.

HEALTH

GOVERNMENT pledges to increase health spending in real terms throughout this Parliament were honoured in the Autumn Statement, but may prove too generous in later years.

Health spending grew rapidly between 1989 and 1992, partly to counter a damaging squeeze in the mid-eighties, and several members of the cabinet were reluctant to give Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, extra money for the next financial year.

Health authorities are already saying they have run out of funds for this year and next year is likely to be much tougher. The combination of medical innovation and a growing elderly population will lead to further demands for better services.

Mrs Bottomley is putting forward ideas first raised by Lord Moore, former social services secretary, who called for more joint ventures with the private sector including hospital hotels.

Health service spending in England is set to rise from nearly £22 billion in 1993-4 to £23.4 billion in 1995-6.

EDUCATION

BIG rises in young people going into higher education and half empty schools are putting extra pressure on the education budget.

The education secretary is committed to increasing resources on higher education in the next three years, an area which accounts for £6 billion a year. It is estimated that more than one in four young people entered higher education in 1992-3. Another 222,000 further education places have been pledged over the next three years.

Spending on grant maintained schools will rise as more schools opt out of local council management. There are 400 grant maintained schools, which is expected to rise to 1,500 next year.

The education department spends £10 billion of the budget and a further £17 billion is spent by local authorities. The government also faces big repair costs on schools, many of which were built in the 1960s and are showing signs of serious wear and tear.

LAW AND ORDER

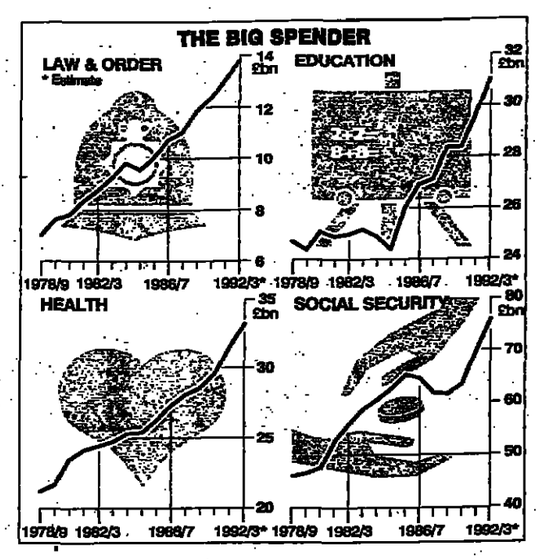
AS reported crime continues to rise the Home Office budget will come under increasing scrutiny as ways are sought to reverse the statistics.

Last autumn Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, announced a 2.3 per cent real terms increase, taking spending to £6.1 billion, for improvements for prisons, help for crime victims and policing levels. Spending will rise to £6.5 billion by 1995-1996.

However, the improvements have been at the expense of police salaries which will be subject to the 1.5 per cent public sector pay ceiling.

Mr Clarke is determined to introduce sweeping reforms in an attempt get better value for money from the police as he did with health and education services. An enquiry announced last May will look at pay structures, rewards and efficiency to see if savings can be made.

The prison service is also an expensive burden on the state and is considered ripe for privatisation. From April the prison service will become an agency.



A maze too far for the government

MICHAEL Portillo, chief secretary to the Treasury, is trying to find his way out of a maze that the Treasury has unsuccessfully sought to escape from several times since 1979. The in-depth reviews of public spending are not as startlingly novel as the current row implies. Rather, they are a new approach to an old predicament — the seemingly inexorable growth of core spending programmes.

Governments make spending decisions each autumn, but these concentrate on changes at the margin, seldom making much difference to long-term trends. There is usually neither the time nor the will for more fundamental reviews of whether programmes are needed. From the Heath era onwards, Treasury officials have talked about "zero-based budgeting", though little has happened.

Geoffrey Howe, when he was chancellor, attempted a comprehensive review in 1982. The Treasury projected possible spending trends for 1990. On the assumption of low economic growth, the share of national income taken by spending would stay at 47 per cent, though on a more optimistic projection it might fall to just below 40 per cent. This was the ratio actually reached in 1990. However, the Treasury regarded the optimistic view as unrealistic and suggested that the pessimistic scenario might imply either a basic income tax rate of 45 per cent or a single VAT rate of 25 per cent.

The then think-tank (the Central Policy Review Staff) produced a paper raising options such as education vouchers, the replacement of part of the National Health Service by compulsory private insurance, and the cancellation of the Trident programme.

The result was, according to Lord Lawson in his autobiography *The View from Number 11*, "the nearest thing to a cabinet riot in the history of the Thatcher administration". The Think Tank report was shelved.

This episode made the Treasury wary about a frontal assault. Instead, spending was to be contained indirectly. When he became chancellor, Lord Lawson launched a green paper, *The Next Ten Years: Public Expenditure and Taxation into the 1990s*, in March 1984 which warned of long-term pressures, though avoided the confrontation of 1982. Lord Lawson sought to contain the growth of spending via piecemeal changes, notably dropping the pledge to Nato to increase defence spending by 3 per cent a year in real terms.

However, the limits of this approach, as well as his own experience as Treasury chief secretary, persuaded John Major to back the more systematic medium- to long-term reviews now being started. These will look at each department on a rolling basis over the course of the parliament.

The aims are identical to those in the 1984 green paper

[redacted]

— distinguishing between high priority and avoidable spending, and identifying areas where better targeting can be achieved or from where the public sector can withdraw.

This sounds fine in theory, but will be difficult to achieve. Not only have the Tories made specific commitments on child benefit, pensions, health and the like that will be honoured, at least until the next election, but a government with a majority of only 21 will find it hard to win Commons approval for controversial cutbacks in existing services.

If the Thatcher government at the height of its powers had to back off considering radical options for the welfare state, what chance does the weakened Major administration have? Mr Portillo should enjoy the plaudits he is receiving from Tory MPs for launching the long-term reviews. He will hear far fewer when he produces the conclusions.

PETER RIDDELL

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Pond life spawns frogs and toadies

Do you know, reader, what Betty Boothroyd thinks the word "pillock" means? Or what Bill Walker wears under his kilt? You shall learn. But, first, to defence questions...

These proved fun, thanks to Newcastle's Nick Brown (Lab). Brown's question about Britain's amphibious programme was serious, but the defence secretary caused chuckles. "Amphibiosity," said the learned Mr Rifkind, "continues to be a very important asset."

He should know. Mr Rifkind resembles one of those South American tree-frogs that climb up your bedroom wall in Brazil and stare at you in the night, eyes bulging with a look of mild, donnish surprise. When next we meet him we must search the ends of his fingers for sticker-pads.

His reply demonstrated the very amphibiosity he endorsed. It was neither one thing nor the other. He sort of endorsed the concept of a sea-going helicopter carrier, and sort of did not. It would have to be "considered on its merits", he concluded, not venturing an opinion as to what these were.

Other ministers, too, went for the amphibious option. Take junior minister Jonathan Aitken, more of a pond-frog. Once a key Euro-rebel, Mr Aitken now has a ministerial post and has completely submerged. He monitors the scene these days with just one eye appearing briefly above the surface of the Westminster pond. Responding yesterday to an invitation from Chelmsford's Simon Burns (Con) to tell us the good news about Britain's arms exports, Aitken marvelled at his prime minister's "superb negotiating skills". Whether a frog can toady is for zoologists to say.

David Evans (C, Welwyn & Hatfield) can only be compared to a bullfrog. When he bellows he puffs up to twice his normal size and the whole swamp hears. The volumes at which Evans roars lie at the upper limits of the tolerance of the human ear, where sound distorts, but "Ukraine" and "crackpot" were discernible. By coincidence the Ukranian president was in Britain on a visit yesterday. Evans's colleague, Ian Taylor (C, Esher), remarked: "He may well have heard my hon friend's question." Had President Kravchuk been present it is hard to say which he would have found more remarkable: David Evans or Bill Walker.

Mr Walker (C, Tayside N) strutted up, to Labour wolf whistles, in a kilt. "I stand before you, Madam Speaker, wearing the dress of Highland Scotland." We were happy to take this on trust, but not Sir Nicholas Fairbairn (C, Perth & Kinross), who told the Chair on a point of order that this kilt was *not* Walker's national dress; and — worse! — "I have reason to believe that under it he is wearing little red underpants". Walker was wearing a little red face.

Fairbairn desisted but the episode seemed to have aroused the sneak in his colleague, Barry Porter (C, Wirral S). Porter sits opposite Labour's Terry Lewis (Worsley), famous for his outrage over BT's 0800 porn-lines. Mr Lewis, Porter told the Chair, had "used the word 'pillock' not once, not twice, but *four* times". It seems he provides a parliamentary pillock-line, and Porter wanted Miss Boothroyd to ban it. Did she know what this word meant, he asked?

To our great surprise, Miss Boothroyd replied that she had not the least idea what pillock meant. Funny, that. She's in charge of 650 of them.



Freedom mission: Julie Ride and her son, William, after visiting her husband Paul

Families visit pair jailed in Iraq

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

TWO Britons jailed in Iraq were yesterday allowed a six-hour visit by relatives. The families of Paul Ride and Michael Wainwright were in Baghdad to try to win the men's release.

The visit was the most high-profile permitted by Iraq since Mr Ride, 33, a catering manager from Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire, was jailed for seven years for crossing the border from Kuwait last August. Mr Wainwright, 42, of London, was jailed for ten years after crossing into Iraq from Turkey on a cycling holiday last May.

Returning to their hotel after visiting Abu Ghraib prison, the relatives looked cheerful. "They are very well looked after," Mr Ride's wife, Julie, said. Holding her 23-month-old son, William, Mrs Ride said the visit went "very well". Asked if the mission would result in freedom for the two, she said: "We can't say that."

The visit was seen as an attempt by Iraq to push for better relations with the West, and at the same time put pressure on Britain to release assets frozen until Iraq complies with UN resolutions imposed under the Gulf war ceasefire. Iraq has refused court appeals against the convictions, meaning the men can be freed only by a pardon from President Saddam.

In the party, which arrived on Monday, were Mrs Ride and her son, Mr Wainwright's mother, Iris, and his sister, and Michael Whitlam, director general of the British Red Cross, who said the men were looking "fit and well".

Queen to issue writ against The Sun

BY BILL FROST

BUCKINGHAM Palace announced last night that the Queen's solicitor is to issue a writ against *The Sun* over the premature publication of her Christmas message.

A lawyer for *The Sun* earlier confirmed that any legal action brought by the Queen for breach of copyright would be opposed in the High Court.

A second courtroom confrontation between the press and the Establishment was signalled yesterday when *New Statesman & Society* said it would fight libel actions brought against the magazine by the prime minister and Clare Latimer, the caterer.

The Sun had been given seven days to respond to a letter from Sir Matthew Farrer, the Queen's solicitor, demanding damages and costs after it published the text of her speech two days ahead of transmission. As the deadline ran out yesterday, Daniel Taylor, company solicitor for News Group Newspapers, said the newspaper would resist any legal proceedings that might follow.

"*The Sun* is surprised by the decision to seek substantial damages and costs against the newspaper over the publication of the Christmas day broadcast," Mr Taylor said. "*The Sun* regrets that Her Majesty has been advised to bring a lawsuit in her own courts for publication of the Christmas day message two days before the due broadcast date. The threat of legal proceedings appears to *The Sun* to lack a sense of due proportion."

The letter sent to *The Sun* claimed the newspaper had infringed the Queen's copyright when it published her 787-word speech on December 23 in which she spoke of the "difficult days" she had faced in 1992.

Buckingham Palace said yesterday that officials were unaware the newspaper had formally responded to Sir Matthew's letter, although it did know of the newspaper's statement.

[redacted]

Salmonella hens slaughter halted

Compulsory slaughter of laying hen flocks infected with salmonella is to end, even though reported cases of humans being poisoned by the form of the virus mainly associated with eggs and poultry are at the highest level on record. John Gummer, the agriculture minister, told the Commons yesterday he had decided to act on the advice of a scientific committee which has been investigating the link between salmonella and eggs for the past three years.

The policy was adopted early in 1989 in the wake of the claim by Edwina Currie, then the junior health minister, that "most of the egg production" in Britain was infected with salmonella. The committee suggests that unhygienic handling of eggs in domestic kitchens, shops and catering premises is the main cause of poisoning rather than contamination at source.

Irishmen remanded

Two Irishmen were remanded in custody until March 4 yesterday, charged with conspiracy to cause explosions. Martin Colomba McMonagle and Liam Robert Francis Hefferman, both 30, were also charged with conspiring to steal explosives and possessing a loaded revolver. They did not speak during their five-minute appearance at Arbour Square magistrates' court, east London, which follows their arrest on Sunday near Wells, Somerset and which was accompanied by tight security.

Sword victim recovers



Det. Sgt Bob Window, right, being reunited yesterday with David Gault, the surgeon who sewed back his hand after it was severed by an attacker with a Samurai sword. Det Sgt Window returned to Mount Vernon Hospital, in Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, and demonstrated how movement was slowly returning to his fingers. He said that the injury was causing little pain. Mr Gault led a team of surgeons in a 12-hour operation to sew back the hand. A man is awaiting trial for attempted murder.

Short backs Britain

Nigel Short has supported a bid to stage his world chess championship match against Gary Kasparov in Britain. Short said he would not play in Belgrade, which has submitted a bid with Sofia worth about £3.89 million. The only other bid is from Santiago de Compostela in Spain, offering £400,000. Adam Black, of the British Chess Federation, said both bids were defective, and he hoped a British offer could come through the middle. Manchester and Birmingham are interested. Bids close on February 22.

Rosyth dockyard saved as pressure grows to halt army cuts

Continued from page 1

make up its mind about the Trident contract. They said the defence ministry had had all the figures for 12 months and there was no need for further examination. Michael Leece, managing director and chief executive of Devonport Management, said he was seriously disappointed by the statement.

Mr Rifkind's announcement failed to satisfy MPs and trade union officials, who complained at further delays in reaching a decision on the Trident contract and predicted job losses at both yards. A further 14,000 indirect jobs are at stake in the Rosyth area. Devonport, which employs about 5,200, says another 15,000 jobs are at stake in the region.

George Mandark, Rosyth dockyard union secretary, said: "This could be a glimmer of hope for us. There are going to be two dockyards, but if they put the submarine work to Devonport, that just leaves us with some surface work."

David Clark, shadow defence secretary, described Mr Rifkind's statement as "the latest mix-up" which only added to the uncertainty over other shipyards, such as Tyneside's Swan Hunter and Clydeside's Yarrow yard.

At the same time as doubts were expressed over the dockyard announcement, the government faced serious opposition to its programme of defence cuts from the powerful Commons defence committee which demanded a reprieve of seven more infantry battalions, due to go under the *Options for Change* review.

The MPs on the all-party committee said the announcement last week that two battalions would be reinstated with the cancellation of the planned merger of the Cheshire and Staffordshire regiments and The Royal Scots and The King's Own Scottish Borderers did not go far enough.

In a highly critical report which attacked the premise upon which the *Options* exercise was based, the MPs called for a halt to all the remaining planned regimental amalgamations. So far, seven of 55 infantry battalions have gone in the first phase of mergers up to the end of this month.

The MPs want the total number of infantry battalions to stay at 47. That would be seven more than planned under the government's figure for the army, which was revised from 38 to 40 after the statement last week by Mr Rifkind.

At a press conference, Sir Nicholas Bonsor, chairman of the committee, said it would be cheaper for the Treasury to pay for the extra infantry battalions than to give large redundancy payments to soldiers and unemployment benefit to those who could not find civilian jobs.

He said the cost of saving the infantry battalions had to be set against the overall cost of redundancies which would be £1.29 billion up to 1995.

Sir Nicholas added that he did not want to raise the hopes of regiments awaiting amalgamation, but he promised that his "dogged" committee would "fight every inch of ground" to persuade the government to reverse the army cuts.

Army cuts, page 4



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Many faces of the Bard stir much ado in the art world

BY ALISON ROBERTS, ARTS REPORTER

THE forthcoming sale of a portrait miniature claimed to depict William Shakespeare is reviving the debate among art historians about what the Bard really looked like.

A Man Clasping a Hand from a Cloud, by Nicholas Hilliard, painted in 1588, was owned by the late Leslie Hotson, who suggested that Shakespeare is shown as Mercury clasping the hand of Apollo and read symbolic references to the gods in the clothes and landscape. Historians are sceptical. Sir Roy Strong, who has written several publications on Elizabethan portraiture, including one on Hilliard, believes that the subject is Lord Thomas Howard, knighted at sea for bravery against the Spanish Armada. The painting was originally believed to depict the second Earl of Essex.

There were *many* 16th-century paintings of "balding men who look vaguely like Shakespeare", Sir Roy said. There had been numerous "discoveries" since the end of the 18th century, but "you often find that they have been doctored to look like him. I always think that they make him look like a retired car salesman, although he was quite a dish."

His case for Lord Thomas Howard is strengthened by the fact that a miniaturist of Hilliard's standing would be unlikely to have painted Shakespeare in 1588, only two years after the poet left Stratford upon Avon with a reputation as a poacher rather than a playwright.

John Cooper, of the National Portrait Gallery, said that the art world was always cautious about pictures claiming to be of Shakespeare. "We can only be sure of two representations, both of which are commented upon in the First Folio by men who would have known Shakespeare personally. A lot of ink has been spent on it and it is a fascinating subject."

Historians approach claims to authenticity like detectives. Many of the unproven portraits are derivations of a picture known as the Chandos Shakespeare, in the National Portrait Gallery. This itself has never been fully accepted as genuine, but remains the only oil on canvas with more than superficial claims; the two accepted versions are an engraving and a bust.

Many of the claimed *portraits agree on the basic* traits. They show a man with a bald crown, long curling hair, moustache, pointed beard and dark, often hooded, eyes.

The Hilliard *miniature* is expected to fetch up to £60,000 when sold on March 3 at Christie's.



Shall I compare thee: Shakespeare's funerary bust, left, and the First Folio engraving, right, are accepted as likenesses but the Chandos portrait, centre, is still in doubt



Writer or fighter: the Hilliard *miniature*, identified here as the Earl of Essex

Fusilier killed by IRA booby trap

BY EDWARD GORMAN
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE army in Northern Ireland suffered its worst casualties in a single incident in over a year when one soldier was killed and four were wounded by an elaborate IRA booby trap early yesterday.

Three soldiers were in a serious condition in hospital *in Belfast and the fourth was* being kept in for observation. Two others were treated for shock and discharged.

The attack took place on the western outskirts of Armagh at *about 1.45am as a foot patrol* of seven members of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, and an RUC member were moving along a road into the town. An initial explosion injured at least one soldier. That was followed by two simultaneous explosions designed to injure or kill soldiers going to the aid of the first casualty.

The army said the dead soldier was Lance Corporal Michael Joseph Beswick, 21, a single man from Heywood, Greater Manchester.

Police said the three 20-kilogram devices were detonated by command wire. The IRA has used secondary devices before, the most notorious being the Warrenpoint bombing in August 1979 that killed six paratroopers initially and a further twelve in the secondary explosion.

An army spokesman said patrolling techniques were designed to minimise the vulnerability of large numbers of men. Soldiers were trained to redeploy safely before approaching an injured colleague but, the spokesman said, the natural inclination was to respond quickly.

This is the second serious incident the fusiliers have been involved in during their two-year tour. Last May one soldier was killed and two injured by a bomb detonated next to a checkpoint outside Newry, co. Down.

British Council calls in police to trace vanished £300,000

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND ANGELA MACKAY

SENIOR officials at the British Council, which promotes the nation's cultural interests abroad, have called in police to help track down hundreds of thousands of pounds allegedly missing from their accounts. It is believed that around £300,000 has disappeared and that cheques legally drawn on their account have been channelled into false accounts.

Detectives from Charing Cross police station are interviewing British Council staff at their London headquarters in an effort to trace the missing cash. Some of the major clearing banks, including Midland and Barclays, have been alerted to be on the lookout for a number of five-figure cheques which have been passed through a series of fictitious accounts.

The British Council has an annual budget of £408 million and employs 6,000 people around the world. It has been described by the National Audit Office as a principal arm of British diplomacy in furthering cultural interests and trade.

The discovery of the missing cash has embarrassed the council. Only a handful of senior executives are aware of the scale of the alleged fraud. They reported their findings to the police last week and set up an internal enquiry.

A police spokesman last night confirmed that the allegations of fraud, but would not comment further. The British Council refused to comment on any aspect of the investigation.

Apart from maintaining its considerable staff and offices world-wide, the British Council also disburses grants to various groups and individuals to fund long-term and one-off projects. It is believed the missing cash involved these grants. Its accounts are monitored by the Public Accounts Committee and the National Audit Office, which maintains a permanent presence at the council's head office.

Some 30 per cent of its core grant comes from the government and the rest from the Overseas Development Administration, other bodies and revenue earned. There has been a long debate in Whitehall about whether the British Council should become an executive agency, but this has always been resisted by the council. It believes its current status gives it an independence essential to the nature of its work which has parallels with the role of the *Alliance Française*.

The council is undergoing a so-called Plistzky review — an inquisition under the auspices of Treasury that is implemented every five years. The review will concentrate on its recent reorganisation under the guidance of John Hanson, its new director general. The overhaul reportedly left the British Council a leaner and fitter organisation and involved the relocation of 650 staff from London to Manchester. A more commercial approach was adopted to bidding for international contracts such as training staff for the World Bank and European Community.

The council operates in 101 countries is best known for its libraries, language training and sponsorship.

The government would like to see some of its functions extended into the emerging but chaotic new eastern Europe. Many Tories also want to privatise the English language teaching operation, which is undertaken in 60 centres around the world, but this is another area strongly defended by the council.

Gagged landlord 'left to die'

A WOMAN who claimed she was sexually harassed by her landlord helped her boy friend to truss him up and leave him to die in a locked room, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Michelle Pavett, 25, and Paul Borton, 25, had been renting a room in Ken Dixon's house. Orlando Pownall, for the prosecution, said Mr Barton, 61, was believed to have died of a heart attack as a result of the attack.

Miss Pavett, unemployed, and Mr Borton, a plumber, deny two charges of false imprisonment and one of manslaughter. Miss Pavett also denies obstructing a coroner. John Flood, 39, a bricklayer, also a tenant in the house, denies a charge of false imprisonment.

The couple first gagged their landlord, said by Mr Flood to have a habit of drunkenness and aggression, a week after they moved in. On June 11 they returned home to find the door of the house in Willesden, north London, double-locked.

Miss Pavett later told police that Mr Dixon was naked when he opened the door and tried to kiss her. When her boy friend argued with him he threatened them with a knife. They bound and gagged him with a pair of underpants and returned to their room, laughing. The following morning they found him dead.

The trial continues today.

Captains given advice on how to escape from pirates

BY TIM JONES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE first government guidelines on sea piracy advise captains to use powerful water hoses to try to repel boarders, but the shipping minister Lord Caithness refused to sanction the carrying of firearms on ships.

There were more than 80 pirate attacks on ships in the first eight months of last year, mainly around southeast Asia, and some raiders used machineguns and bombs to stop vessels.

In December, Captain John Bashforth, 45, of Hathersage, Derbyshire, was murdered by a shot in the head after refusing to hand over money when his ship, *Baltimar Zephir*, was boarded by five men off Indonesia.

Lord Caithness said: "Despite its somewhat romantic image, piracy is and always has been a vile trade. Lives are lost or put at risk, property is stolen and coastlines are threatened by pollution damage following attacks by pirates and armed robbers." But he added: "Arms on board ship may encourage attackers to carry firearms, thereby escalating an already dangerous situation."

The guidelines, the first produced by any government in the world, say every ship operating in waters where attacks are likely to occur should have an anti-attack plan. They add: "There will be many circumstances when compliance with the attackers' demands will be the only safe alternative and when resistance or obstruction of any kind could be both futile and dangerous."

Heritage may drop druid ban

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE druids may be allowed to resume their rituals at Stonehenge this year after a four-year absence, but will not be given access during the summer solstice.

The sect was banned from the site after a violent confrontation between police and "new age" travellers in 1988. With the approval of English Heritage, which manages the site, and the National Trust, which owns surrounding land, the police have enforced an exclusion zone up to and including the solstice.

The ban reinforces a policy of denying access to the stones themselves because of the potential damage. The druids say they have no connection with the travellers and their wish to pursue pagan ceremonies has been compromised by association with past demonstrations.

English Heritage said it was conscious that Stonehenge was a place of special significance for some people. Talks had been held with a number of groups but no final decision had been reached and it was unlikely that access would be granted during the solstice.

English Heritage and the National Trust have put forward a £10 million scheme for a new visitor centre and for changes in access arrangements.



Poppet's art: Carly Johnson in Manchester Art Gallery with *Rhythm of the Trees*

Girl of 4 steals the show as her 'fun' painting is sold for £295

BY RONALD FAUX

A "BLOB" painting by a four-year-old girl, submitted for fun to the Manchester Academy of Fine Arts annual show, sold within minutes yesterday for £295.

Carly Johnson's *Rhythm of the Trees* was submitted among some of her grandfather's paintings. The selectors, unaware that it was by a child, chose it from among 1,100 others for the quality of colour balance, composition and technical skill.

The society was unabashed yesterday and said there were no plans to insist that artists reveal their age in future. Vera Lowe, the secretary, said: "We are not going to change the rules. Children's work is absolutely wonderful until, of course, someone teaches them how to do it." She said she suspected a little subterfuge because the signature was that of an adult.

There was a flood of calls from interested buyers to Manchester City Art Gallery yesterday after the artist's identity was revealed. Barnaby Blacker, a collector who runs a gallery and studio in co. Cork, snapped up the painting for the asking price. "The picture is sheer, innocent poetry," he said. It would not be available for resale and would hang on the wall of his coffee shop.

Carly, of Chorley, Lancashire, produced the picture in the studio of her grandfather, David Sandrill, with just a few flourishes of a paintbrush and he pinned it on the wall.

When he submitted some of his own work for the exhibition, Carly's painting was slipped in as well. Helen Johnson, her mother, said: "It was just for the heck of it. We could not believe it when we heard the judges had decided to show it."

Rhythm of the Trees was one of 367 works selected for the show. Another was one by Mr Sandrill.

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Patten defies teachers with insistence on summer English tests

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

■ **Parents and independent schools have joined the campaign for a rethink on early English tests for 14-year-olds**

ENGLISH tests for 14-year-olds will go ahead this summer to prevent up to one in ten teenagers leaving school almost illiterate, the education secretary John Patten said yesterday in the face of growing opposition from teachers and parents.

Leaders of the six main teaching unions demanded urgent talks with Mr Patten. Five are likely to ballot members on a boycott of the tests and one is threatening to disrupt all national curriculum assessments for children at seven, 11 and 14.

The unions reiterated their opposition to the English tests at a meeting in London. Heads of grant-maintained schools have also appealed to Mr Patten to make this summer's tests a pilot scheme, and most independent schools are expected to exercise their right not to take part in them.

Mr Patten is determined not to relent and is preparing to publish the results even if there is a substantial boycott. He said: "About 520,000 schoolchildren will be taking the English tests this summer, and we know from the appallingly high incidence of adult illiteracy, which seems to have developed since the 1960s, that perhaps one in ten stand a chance of leaving school still grappling with the English language, unless these tests have shown which children need help."

The unions, backed by the English teachers' own association, consider the tests unreliable because of their late preparation and a lack of consultation. Mr Patten and the School Examinations and Assessment Council, which is responsible for the tests, said that the piloting has been adequate.

In a joint statement, the six general secretaries of the unions said they would make every effort to co-ordinate protest action if there was not a rethink. "We insist we are not opposed to testing," they said in a letter to Mr Patten. "We are anxious that pupils should not suffer from untried and ill-prepared tests, the results of which will neither be a true reflection of their attainment nor provide parents with accurate and meaningful information. These are serious matters which demand a full and proper dialogue between you and the teacher organisations."

Only the Professional Association of Teachers, which opposes strikes, is refusing to consider a boycott of the English tests. The National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers has gone further, deciding to ballot members on a withdrawal from all national curriculum tests.

In a radio interview yesterday, Mr Patten said he could not believe that "sensible, professional" unions would conduct a boycott. But even some parents are joining the protest over the tests.

Parents, teachers and school governors in Harrow, north London, which last year topped the government's examination league table, will tomorrow deliver a protest to the prime minister in Downing Street. Seven out of ten parents of pupils due to sit the tests in Harrow this summer have lodged objections, while head teachers and school governors are considering supporting a boycott.

Ann Taylor, Labour's education spokeswoman, urged Mr Patten to meet teachers' representatives to discuss the tests, and argued that they were not essential to tackle illiteracy. "Mr Patten's intransigence impresses no one. He is obviously afraid to listen or consult. It is about time he put pupils' needs before his personal pride."

Mr Patten said: "I am absolutely appalled at the equivocal attitude of the Labour leadership over the boycott proposed by some trade unions. Just where do they stand?"



Patten: tests will help reduce adult illiteracy

Tortuous road that led to all-out war in the classroom

BY BEN PRESTON, EDUCATION REPORTER

The criticial issue dividing government and teachers is the seemingly straightforward one of how to assess the progress of almost 600,000 pupils against the new national curriculum. The results will be published in school league tables for England and Wales in the autumn.

Few dissenting voices have been raised against the tests in mathematics, science and technology. Instead, opposition has focused on English, with even teaching union leaders surprised at its vehemence; the English curriculum has been subject to changes when the tests themselves have not been tried out in a full-scale national pilot.

All six unions want Mr Patten to make the tests a voluntary dry run this summer, with individuals' results reported to parents but not included in league tables. They complain that the tests are too narrow, poorly prepared and that the results will be invalid. Mr Patten says he will not back down.

As a result, it is impossible to guess how many pupils will sit the first 90-minute paper at 1pm on Monday, June 7. Those that do will face a three-part test of their reading, comprehension, grammar and vocabulary.

Part one will contain one or two passages, with questions requiring short phrase, single word and multiple choice answers. Part two will ask pupils to supply missing words to assess their word power and grasp of grammar. The last section will require pupils to write a letter, with marks for spelling, handwriting and presentation.

Two days later, pupils will face the second paper on works they have studied in class. The 90-minute test will be split between questions on a Shakespeare play — *Julius Caesar*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* or *Romeo and Juliet* — and an anthology of about 30 poems and prose extracts from classic literature, ranging from Chaucer to Doris Lessing.

In the afternoon, pupils will sit their last, hour-long, English test, writing a creative essay.

The route to producing these tests has been long, tortuous and fraught with controversy. It began in autumn 1989 when two agencies, the Consortium for Assessment and Testing in Schools and East London and Macmillan Assessment Group, were asked by the School Examinations and Assessment Council (Seac), the government's advisers, to draw up sample papers.

Almost two years later, after piloting a range of tests on more than 30,000 pupils, Kenneth Clarke, then education secretary, dismissed their work as "elaborate nonsense". It relied too much on children doing project work, instead of the traditional pencil and paper tests he wanted.

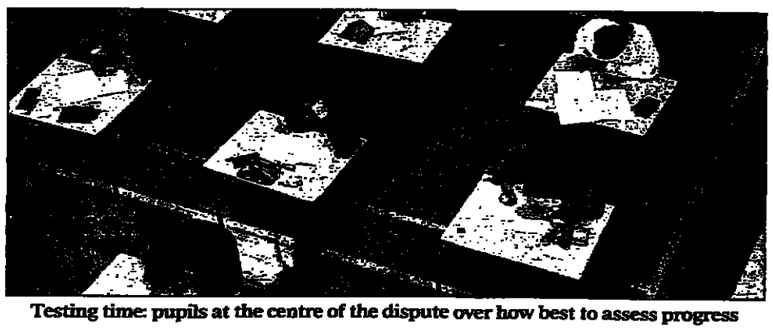
Philip Halsey, the Seac chairman, staunchly defended the style of these tests. But after what one insider called a "battle royal" with Mr Clarke, he resigned suddenly and was replaced by Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, a former head of the Downing Street policy unit.

Lord Griffiths called in the Northern Examing Board to work on the English tests in September 1991. It introduced the idea of using an anthology, including a Shakespeare extract, in tests tried out by 12,000 pupils in 102 schools last summer.

A series of disagreements with Seac, only some about the style of tests, led to yet another change of horse in September, to the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate. It produced a more traditional anthology — out went Ted Hughes, Spike Milligan and a traditional African poem — and has so far tried out its tests on less than 2,800 pupils in 28 schools.

Mr Patten, in an interview on BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme yesterday, argued that the June tests were the result of four years' work, fine-tuned after pilot tests with 45,000 children.

Away from the microphones, Mr Patten acknowledges the scale of opposition to the English tests. It has, he believes, spread from the teacher militants to those frustrated at the pace of change being imposed by government, and beyond, to those teachers who usually stay quietly on the sidelines.



Testing time: pupils at the centre of the dispute over how best to assess progress

Desk-top army cuts 'fall short of reality'

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE powerful Commons defence committee yesterday urged the government to cancel all mergers and disbandments of infantry regiments because of increasing commitments.

The MPs on the all-party committee welcomed the decision last week by Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, to stop the amalgamation of the Cheshire and Staffordshire regiments, and The Royal Scots and The King's Own Scottish Borderers. But they said the extra two battalions created were not enough to eliminate the "overstretch" that was suffered by soldiers and their families.

In a highly critical report, the MPs demanded the reinstatement of seven more infantry battalions to give a total of 47, compared with the government's planned reduction to 40.

The MPs said: "Everything in the past three years leads us to the bleak conclusion that the proposed rundown goes too far and that even minor contingencies are imposing an unacceptable strain on the army."

The report said that the proposed cuts were Treasury-led and "in no way reflect the defence needs of the United Kingdom".

Emergency tours for the infantry have risen substantially since *Options for Change* was finalised, with two extra battalions on duty in Northern Ireland and 2,400 troops serving in Bosnia.

If the government failed to reinstate the regiments earmarked for amalgamation, Britain would be unable to play a proper part in future United Nations peacekeeping operations, the report said.

The "neat desk-top calculations" that had been made by the government in matching manpower needs with current and future commitments did not reflect the real world, the MPs said.

The lesson of Northern Ireland provided the most telling evidence that the government had got its figures wrong and that the army was being overstretched, the report said. The assessment in *Options for Change* was that units should have a gap of 24 months between emergency tours. Yet, as one example, the 2nd Battalion Light Infantry had been on four emergency tours of Northern Ireland since January 1990.

The MPs were also upset over what the army calls "nights out of bed": the number of nights soldiers are away from home. For one unit there were 250 nights out of bed in 1990, 150 in 1991 and 190 in 1992.

The report said: "It is inconceivable that ministers would have approved proposals for reorganisation leading to the current degree of overstretch if it had been fully foreseen. We prefer to believe that it was a lack of foresight rather than indifference to overstretch that has produced the current problems."

The MPs also expressed concern that with the increased use of units from the Royal Armoured Corps and Royal Artillery in an infantry role in Northern Ireland, some regiments had difficulty finding the time to fire their guns. For example, 45 Field Regiment Royal Artillery carried out no regimental training between July 1990 and September 1992. There had also been "disproportionately heavy reductions" in the Royal Armoured Corps.

The MPs were worried, too, that the defence ministry was planning big cuts in equipment for the other two services to help pay for the extra battalions.

Winston Churchill, Tory MP for Davyhulme, said: "We were given the very clear assurance that despite the 25 per cent cut in army manpower, equipment would be significantly better.

"Now we see that promise is to be dishonoured. It is in stark contrast to the utter failure of ministers to cut civilian manpower at the Ministry of Defence by anything like the same amount."

☐ *Britain's Army for the 90s: Commitments and Resources*, Commons Defence Committee (Stationery Office; £14.70)

CHRIS HARRIS



Battling on: the reprieve of the Royal Scots regiment last week does not go far enough, MPs said yesterday

Scots campaigners welcome reprieve

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

IN THE first year of implementing *Options for Change*, The Royal Hampshire Regiment and The Queen's Regiment have merged and are now called The Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment.

A number of large regiments have also lost units. The Royal Green Jackets, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and The Royal Anglian Regiment have been reduced from three battalions to two. The 1st and 2nd battalions of the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles have also amalgamated.

The Light Infantry will lose one of its three battalions by February 27. Infantry regiments still to be merged are The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment with The Gloucestershire Regiment and the Queen's Own Highlanders with The Gordon Highlanders.

A freeze on mergers would affect the Scots Guards, Coldstream Guards, Grenadier Guards and the other Gurkha regiments, all of which are to lose battalions.

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to save Scottish regiments from amalgamation are calling for a full review in the light of the defence select committee's report.

Lt General Sir John MacMillan, former GOC Scotland and chairman of the Keep Our Scottish Battalions campaign, welcomed the report but said Malcolm Rifkind's reprieve of the The King's Own Scottish Borderers and The Royal Scots last week was merely "a sticking plaster over the more serious problems of overstretch in the British infantry".

Sir John said he wanted to see a full review which would show that the army must either be given fewer tasks or more infantry units. "The Ministry of Defence should remember that Scotland is still able to provide fully-manned battalions when other parts of the country cannot", he said.

Charles Laidlaw, organiser of the Keep Our Scottish Battalions Campaign, said he was hopeful in the light of the select committee's recommendations that the merger of The Gordon Highlanders with the Queen's Own Highlanders would not go ahead. "It's a complete vindication of what we've been saying for the last 20 months. The army is being asked to do too much with too few resources."

The newly-saved Borders regiments are joining the Highland regiments in their fight. Michael Robson, chairman of the Save The Gordon Highlanders Committee, said: "Our campaign will continue and I am sure that the Highland regiments will be saved. There will be no slackening of the pressure on the government."

Whitehall rejected girl's school appeal

BY OUR EDUCATION REPORTER

JOHN Patten, the education secretary, yesterday tried to avoid being drawn into a legal dispute over the right of an 11-year-old girl to attend a single-sex school after it emerged that his officials had already rejected her case.

Lawyers for the girl, identified only as Ellen X, claim Hertfordshire education authority is guilty of discrimination because it failed to give her a place at St Albans Girls' School while providing enough places for applicants at a nearby boys' school. Education authorities are required to ensure only that there are equal numbers of places for boys and girls at single-sex schools even though competition is usually much tougher for girls' places.

The Hertfordshire authority, which has asked for Mr Patten's support in contesting the case, warned there would be a "total muddle" if schools were forced to provide places at single-sex schools to match demand.

Geoffrey Williams, the county's assistant director of education, said: "If we lose, every local education authority with single-sex schools would be put in a position where they had to predict demand in order to provide places in proportion to parents' first preferences. We would have to be two years ahead of ourselves to apply for grants needed to build new classrooms to expand popular schools."

The education department said yesterday that Mr Patten was considering Hertfordshire's appeal for aid. But in a letter to Ellen's parents in September, department officials backed the authority. They said that she did not appear to suffer from inequality of opportunity because there were "far more" places at single-sex school available to girls than boys in Hertfordshire. The county offers 736 places for girls each year at seven secondary schools, compared with 568 places for boys at five schools.

Ellen's father said the case would be pursued to the House of Lords if necessary. "If our daughter was a boy she would have got a place, but because she is a girl she has not. That's wrong and unfair."

Beck phone call leads to enquiry

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Home Office has started an enquiry into whether prisoners could abuse new rules allowing them to make telephone calls. The enquiry comes after Frank Beck, convicted in the Leicestershire child sex abuse case, was heard on television this week commenting on reports about his case.

Beck was recorded talking to his solicitor from Gartree prison. In the past year, telephone cards have been issued to an increasing number of prisoners under recommendations by Lord Justice Woolf to enable them to remain in contact with their families. The enquiry will look at ways of preventing abuse of this.

The investigation will look at the television interview with the mass murderer Dennis Nilsen, over which the Home Office sought a ban and has started a breach of copyright case. The Home Office said both cases raised issues of how much prisoners should be able to talk to the media and have outside contact.

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Teenage trend-setters give 'overpriced' trainers the boot

BY NICHOLAS WATT

LIGHTWEIGHT training shoes, which once graced the clubs and playgrounds of Britain with their floppy nylon tongues, are out. Sales have halved in the last few years as youngsters spurn them in favour of chunky walking boots.

Only a few years ago, no self-respecting teenager would dare to turn up at a rave without a pair of trainers. Boys and girls alike danced, flirted and smoked the night away in identical uniforms of baggy jeans and T-shirts. So alluring were the shoes produced by designer names such as Nike, Adidas and Reebok that American teenagers mugged each other to slip their feet into a pair.

Reebok, the sports shoe manufacturers which spotted the change in fashion, yesterday launched its new chunky shoe designed to recapture the teenage market. The Boks, soon to be followed by a children's version called Weebok, will sell for between £35 and £70. Debera Dixon, of Reebok, said that the company had exhausted the trainer shoe market. "Fashion has turned its back on athletic trainers," she said. "A couple of years ago, cool dudes were wearing trendy brands of trainers. Now they're wearing deck shoes or rugged work boots."

Iain R Webb, *The Times* fashion editor, said: "The look of today's trainers is constantly being updated: new airsole, pump action or radical colours. To keep apace with fashion and remain 'hip', you can only wear a certain style for a month or so. Very few young people can afford this kind of consumption — the new "grunge" look is the anthithesis of this flashy materialistic way of dressing. Now young people choose to wear utility look footwear: Dr Marten boots, clogs or desert boots."

A recent survey of more than 100 teenagers found that 90 per cent thought trainers were too expensive. More than three quarters of those for *Check It Out*, the Consumers' Association's youth magazine, said they they were not prepared to pay more than £50 for a pair. Blind tests of five popular brands of trainer for comfort and cushioning showed that the most expensive models were best.

Suggestions that the decline in training shoes means that Britain has now become a lazier nation were firmly rebutted by the athlete Steve Ovett. "Running and jogging have not gone out of fashion."

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Lawyers criticise new maintenance rules but woman put in charge says they are fair

Big rise predicted in child support disputes

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

JUDGES and lawyers are predicting a big rise in disputes between divorced parents as a result of government proposals to change the system for assessing how much fathers pay to support their children.

The Child Support Act, which comes into force in April, removes assessing maintenance from the courts and places it with the new Child Support Agency, which will have wide-ranging powers of enforcement.

The act is aimed at ensuring that absent fathers contribute towards their children's upbringing and also at reducing the legal aid bill. Legal aid for child maintenance cases will be scrapped. But some legal experts predict that the new system, under which maintenance payments will be worked out according to a tariff, will cause rifts in second families and more disputes over access.

Mrs Justice Booth, a judge in the High Court family division, said the act may undermine the "clean break" principle of divorce settlements. Wives would be able to seek a full maintenance order even when they had agreed nominal child maintenance in return for a larger share of the capital in the divorce settlement so that they could make a "clean break".

Claire Meltzer, a family law solicitor with Collyer-Bristow, said the tariff system was flawed because it lacked the discretion that judges could currently apply according to individual circumstances. Under the new scheme fathers, and occasionally mothers, will have their income assessed according to a standardised table.

The agency is expected to order child maintenance of an average £30 to £40 a week. But the tariff system takes no account of the needs of any future children that the father supports. "Second families could be wrecked by the financial strain of continuing high maintenance payments," Mrs Meltzer said.

Fathers may be able to exploit allowances for items such as mortgages and pensions. Valerie Godson, also of Collyer-Bristow, said: "This is an open invitation for fathers to invest heavily in a pension or a mortgage to reduce their maintenance payments. The situation is wide open to abuse."

Richard Sax, of solicitor Rubinstein Callingham Polden & Gale, warned of problems because maintenance would be adjusted according to the amount of contact a father had. "If a child spends 104 nights a year, or two nights a week, with the absent parent, maintenance will be reduced. So there could now be disputes over contact where previously the mother would have been very happy to allow frequent contact, but now realises this could lead to a reduction of at least two-sevenths in maintenance payable."

The Campaign Against the Child Support Act, a lobby group, has criticised the legislation for forcing single mothers on income support to claim maintenance from absent fathers, even if they wanted no contact with them. Mothers who refuse to disclose a father's whereabouts can be fined £8.80 a week. They will have a legal right to refuse maintenance if they fear violence, but the campaign said women would face pressure and harassment from officials to comply.

ALAN WELLER



In search of parents: Ros Hepplewhite heads the campaign against those evading child maintenance

Daughter of an absent father leads fight to make parents pay

BY MICHAEL DYNES
WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

From the seventh floor of a central London office block, Ros Hepplewhite, the head of the new Child Support Agency, is about to take centre stage in measures against the absent parent.

On April 5, the 40-year-old former director of Mind, the mental health charity, launches the government's long-awaited assault on the evasion of child maintenance.

During the four years it will take the new agency to become fully operational, absent parents will discover that paying child maintenance is one of life's certainties, alongside death and taxes.

From April, single parents receiving income support, family credit or disability working allowance will be asked to provide information about the absent parent so they can be traced by the agency and notified of their legal obligation to provide maintenance.

With access to Inland Revenue and Department of Social Security records, Ms Hepplewhite says: "The absent parent will be traced." Maintenance will be "assessed, collected and enforced" without contact between the parents. "It will be a much more comprehensive system than is currently provided by the courts."

In the eyes of many, the measures are long overdue. The number of lone parents receiving income support almost trebled from 322,000 in 1979 to 895,000 in 1991.

The number of lone parents receiving maintenance fell from 50 to 23 per cent during the same period, forcing the state to assume the cost of supporting the two million children in such circumstances at a cost of £4.3 billion a year.

The Child Support Agency, the first of the so-called Next Steps semi-autonomous agencies to be created from scratch, is a recognition that the traditional family structure is breaking down and marks a break with the permissive attitudes over parental obligations towards their children.

The dramatic increase in "lone parenthood" and "serial relationships" has seen the cost of separation "falling on the state", Ms Hepplewhite said. Parents have, however, a clear obligation to support their children. Consequently the agency, which will force parents to shoulder those responsibilities, "represents a clear break with the drift of the past".

Ms Hepplewhite, who is married with two children, could be said to be admirably qualified for her £48,000-a-year post. As a child she was abandoned by her father and brought up by her mother, a teacher, without any financial support from her husband. She says, however, that she harbours no resentment towards errant fathers.

From April, absent fathers could be forgiven for thinking otherwise. The new agency will operate from six regional centres at Belfast, Falkirk, Birkenhead, Dudley, Plymouth and Hastings, each employing 500 staff, with a further 2,000 staff at the 450 social security offices around the country.

The agency will cost £150 million to set up and £100 milion a year to run. It has been given a long-term target of reducing the annual bill for child support by some £600 million.

All new child maintenance cases will be dealt with by the agency from April and all existing cases will be progressively transferred to it over the next four years.

Ms Hepplewhite says that many absent parents, most of whom are fathers, will be "shocked" by the size of the new settlements. "Average court awards have lost value," she said. Awards of £25 a week per child were "unrealistic". In future, average awards were likely to be nearer £50 a week. Each award would be based on a strict formula which would take account of the financial circumstances of the parents.

"We are not a punitive organisation," Ms Hepplewhite said, "and we are not concerned whether the relationship lasted 20 minutes or 20 years. But maintenance bills will be almost double."

Mothers who refuse to co-operate with the agency by naming the father could face benefit reductions, unless they can prove that they would "suffer harm or undue distress". Similarly, fathers who refuse to make or keep up payments could have the money deducted from their income and could face a prison sentence.

Ms Hepplewhite does not expect the agency to be accepted with open arms overnight. "We expect some hostility and resistance. Acceptance will require a big cultural change."

But parents will eventually see that "it's inevitable, it's fair, and it's happening to everbody else as well". While there is "an element of choice about becoming a parent," maintenance will become just like paying taxes.

"No one wants to pay up but there will be no choice," Ms Hepplewhite said.

Electronic pebbles keep watch on erosion

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

AN ELECTRONIC pebble has been developed by British researchers to aid local authorities planning coastal defence strategies.

Inside the device are an electronic circuit and a battery that produce a series of coded signals which can be tracked using another device resembling a metal detector.

A variety of unpredictable forces such as storms, waves and tides conspire to erode vulnerable stretches of coastline by washing shingles, gravel and sands away or sweeping them down the coast. Damage is acute in the south of England, where erosion is threatening valuable scenic and agricultural land as well as homes.

Some local authorities are spending millions of pounds to replenish vulnerable sites using materials such as pebbles but with little idea if such schemes are effective.

The electronic pebbles, which resemble natural pebbles in shape, weight and size, are buffeted and moved like the real ones. By tracking them, planners can study how the various natural forces interplay on a stretch of coastline. More importantly, their fate can give indications as to whether replenishment of a particular stretch is worth the money.

The devices are the brainchild of Professor Michael Collins and Professor Jim Smith of Southampton University. Each pebble costs about £30 but could be much cheaper if mass-produced. Tests were recently completed in collaboration with Canterbury City Council on a beach near Whitstable, Kent.

Professor Collins said the devices could play a key role in deciding gravel extraction licences. Companies dredge up to half of construction gravel from offshore.

Licences are granted or refused depending on whether the seabed is mobile or stationary. Material in mobile beds can be washed back onshore, feeding the coast and helping to stem erosion.

Professor Collins said it was vital that these were left untouched.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cambridge half-way to £250m

BY JOHN SHAW

Cambridge University announced yesterday that it had passed the half-way point in its campaign to raise £250 million in cash for new research projects.

The campaign, launched in 1989, aims to reach its target within ten years. Support is being given to six main areas: biochemistry, clinical medicine, engineering, law, management studies and the university library.

Former students have contributed large sums towards £125 million in cash and the university has raised a further £171 million in research grants and contracts. Sir David Williams, the vice-chancellor, said: "In just over three years of a ten-year campaign, we have achieved extremely encouraging results. I hope this will continue."

Heir banned

Lord Apsley, 31, the heir to Earl Bathurst's Cirencester Park estate in Gloucestershire, was banned from driving for three years and put on probation for 18 months by Cirencester magistrates. He had admitted driving while almost four times over the legal alcohol limit.

Station attack

Up to ten people were taken to hospital with eye injuries after being attacked with a temporarily blinding spray at Waterloo station, central London. A man was later detained at Kennington police station.

Van explodes

McCalla Moony, 3, burnt to death and her three brothers and grandmother were badly injured when the camper van in which they were travelling exploded near Barnstaple, Devon.

High note

The opera singer Luciano Pavarotti has accepted an invitation to become vice-president of the annual Llangollen International Eisteddfod.

British human rights activists face life in Indian prison

BY KATE ALDERSON

TWO Britons face life imprisonment in India after being charged with sedition, rioting with deadly weapons and criminal conspiracy.

David Ward and Stephen Hillman, who were charged two weeks ago, were held for a year after entering Nagaland, a northeastern region of India which has been all but closed to foreigners since 1947. They deny all charges and say their only crime was to enter Nagaland without a special permit.

Politicians and human rights groups are calling for the speedy release of Mr Ward and Mr Hillman following John Major's recent state visit to India where he raised their case.

The prime minister had previously written to Mr Ward's family saying that he understood the concern surrounding their imprisonment. Simon Hughes, MP for Southwark and Bermondsey, is calling on Mr Major to state what further action he plans.



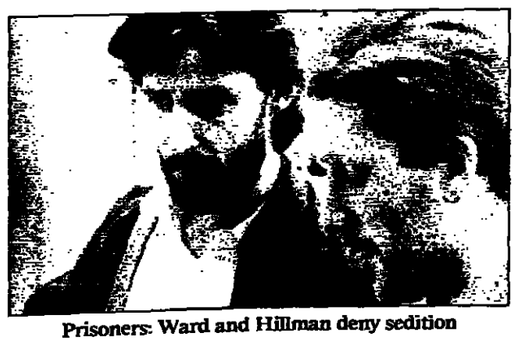
Naga-Vigil, a UK-based human rights group which is campaigning for the men's release, claims that more than 100,000 Nagas have lost their lives in the struggle for independence. About 150,000 Indian security forces patrol the area and, according to Amnesty International, allegations of rape, torture and murder by the troops are frequent.

The two men deny the Indian government's claim that they were in Nagaland to promote insurgency and that when they were arrested, in a convoy of Naga vehicles, they shot at security forces. They say they were recording human rights abuses for Naga-Vigil. Both claim the reason for detention was not originally made clear to them and that they were initially denied access to lawyers.

In a letter to Mr Major last week, Mr Hughes said the two Britons were imprisoned on January 30, 1992, under the National Security Act (1980) "after they had been coerced into signing confessions". Their case will be heard on March 3.

Prisoners Abroad is concerned at the length of their imprisonment and their treatment. It said: "An Indian official has confirmed that both Ward and Hillman were unarmed. They were beaten, held in leg irons, blindfolded and have both lost a great deal of weight. Doctors wishing to see them were denied access."

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "Whether they had taken any part in the Naga campaign seems most unlikely. We would like to see the men home as soon as possible".



Prisoners: Ward and Hillman deny sedition

The way it isn't

CRAIG BROWN



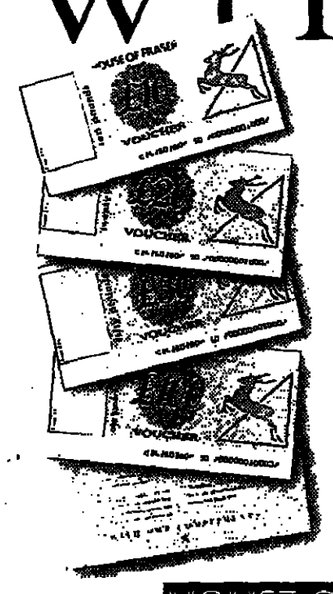
SUCH was the foresight of the English class system that even the phrase "I want a classless society" was booby-trapped long ago, ready to embarrass those who sought to dismantle it. When John Major said: "I want a classless society", he managed the long "a" in "class", but fell foul of the "a" in "want", pronouncing it to rhyme with "hunt" rather than "font". By pronouncing it so oddly, he managed to unite all the classes in Britain, if only in glee.

Presumably, Mr Major thought that "wunt" was the classlessly correct way to pronounce "want". Yet it is one of the few words pronounced the same from north to south and across the classes. When the new classless-speak becomes official, I wonder what the correct pronunciation of the word "off" will be? At the moment, both the upper and lower classes unite in pronouncing it "awf", while all the in-betweenies pronounce it to rhyme with "cough". To rule against "awf" would thus be an act of snobbery and inverted snobbery at one and the same time.

The top and the bottom also unite in their use of the word "What?" instead of "Pardon?". Thus we have the odd situation whereby the lower-middle-to-middle-middle-classes are busily teaching their children to say "Pardon?" rather than "What?" while the middle-middle-to-upper classes are struggling just as hard to teach them to copy the lower and say "What?" rather than "Pardon?".

If ever I meet the prime minister, I plan to speak very softly, so that I can learn at first hand what his ruling is on the matter. On past form, he will reply "Whardon?" or "Phat?".

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Private firms may run motorways

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PRIVATE firms may soon be responsible for running and upgrading Britain's motorways. Under proposals to be unveiled in John MacGregor's forthcoming green paper, the private sector could be asked to install electronic tolls, collect charges and use the money to design and build big improvements such as extra lanes.

The move, aimed at bringing forward the transport secretary's 20-year £23 billion programme for upgrading the motorway network, would amount to its effective privatisation.

The disclosure that Mr MacGregor envisages a pivotal role for the private sector in keeping traffic moving into the next century follows the revelation on Monday of plans to impose tolls on the existing motorway network.

The report led to a storm of protest from Opposition leaders and motoring organisations, but sources close to Mr MacGregor said yesterday that he was unperturbed by the criticism and that he viewed his proposals as delivering the Autumn Statement's drive for more private funding of projects traditionally seen as a public preserve.

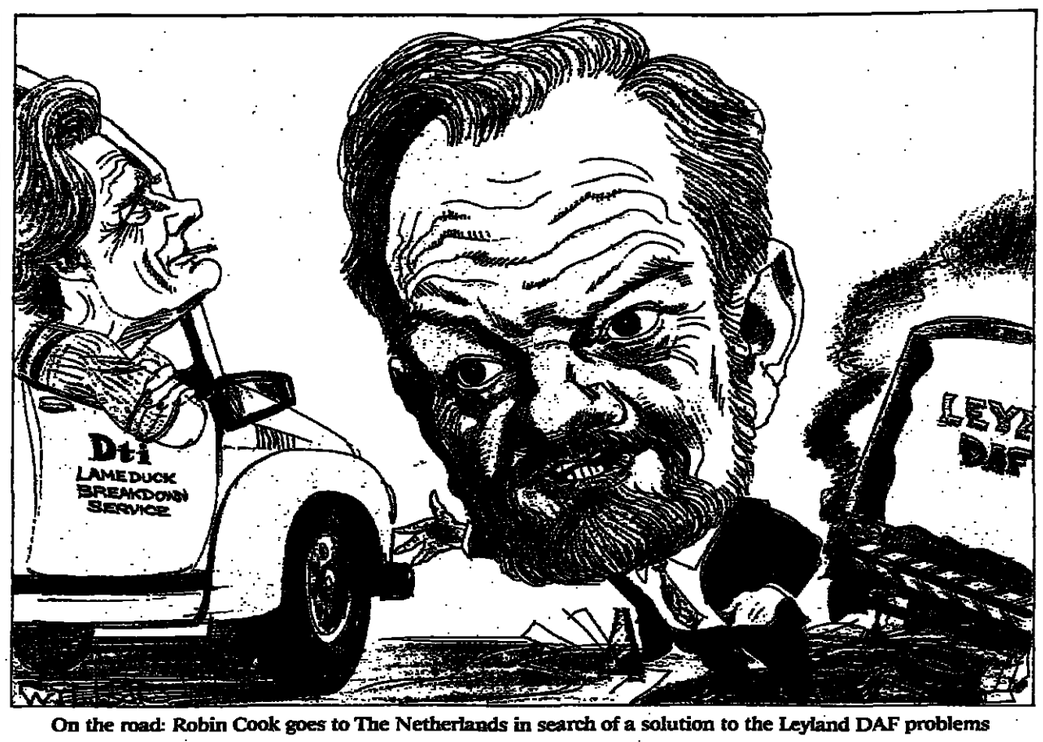
Transport department officials said yesterday that Mr MacGregor would float the option of making private construction firms primarily responsible for motorway management. Tolls would be electronically collected and would not involve more booths of the kind that hold up traffic at the Dartford crossing on the M25.

"Tolls could possibly be operated by private companies, which would collect the money and maintain the road. All this is a possibility. It is part of getting the private sector involved in public projects. It all stems from the Autumn Statement."

Under the plan, to be detailed in a green paper in the spring, construction companies would be invited to compete for government contracts to manage the motorways. One factor in awarding tenders might be the quality and standards of proposed motorway service areas. Officials believe that motorists might be persuaded to pay tolls because of the attractions of a clean and comfortable stopping-off point.

The officials pointed out that a little-noticed part of a press statement issued by Mr MacGregor at the time of Norman Lamont's Autumn Statement hinted at a private sector takeover. "In the longer term, I hope to see greater involvement of the private sector in the financing, design, building and *operation* of national roads. The green paper will look at possible new approaches to this."

A key question to be resolved in the green paper is the extent to which the imposition of tolls might be linked to direct upgrading of motorways. Mr MacGregor has said that if a toll were imposed on, say, the M1, that would only be done if the money raised was used to improve this road. However, his officials concede that another option is to pool revenue from all motorways.



On the road: Robin Cook goes to The Netherlands in search of a solution to the Leyland DAF problems

Major resists pressure on Leyland DAF

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

JOHN Major refused to bow to pressure from MPs yesterday to offer help to thousands of Leyland DAF workers whose jobs are threatened.

Labour MPs reacted furiously when the prime minister insisted that the company's future was "a matter for the receivers", after he had been urged in the Commons to tell Michael Heseltine to enter talks with the receiver, management and the unions.

After the Dutch government proposed a £167 million rescue package to save DAF jobs in The Netherlands, Mr Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, was pressed to offer similar financial support to the truck and van company in Britain. Robin Cook, the shadow trade and industry secretary, renewed his attack on Mr Heseltine, claiming that he had "washed his hands" of British industry's problems in failing to protect up to 5,500 British workers.

Mr Cook, who met Dutch ministers in The Hague on Monday, said he was "astonished" that there had been no ministerial approach to The Netherlands and described Britain's absence from eight weeks of talks a scandal.

Although Mr Cook accepted that job losses were likely, he repeated his call for the government to match the Dutch in offering long-term investment to the ailing company and demanded that Britain should be involved in future rescue talks. He believed that Britain should follow the Dutch lead in rescuing a key part of the national technological base.

Mr Cook said that his meeting with two ministers from the Dutch government "was encouraging because I saw what can be done by a government with a clear industrial strategy and a vigorous commitment to making it work".

Leyland DAF's 5,500 British workers received a letter from the joint administrative receivers yesterday warning them that "job losses in the UK are inevitable". However, the letter said that the receivers believed there was a future for Leyland DAF, albeit at a reduced size.

That promise was not enough for Kenneth Palmer, Conservative leader of the South Ribble Borough Council, where Leyland's original plant was built. He has written to Mr Heseltine, calling for an urgent meeting to discuss Leyland's survival. He has called a meeting today with representatives from neighbouring Labour-controlled Preston as well as the Lancashire County Council to work out ways of minimising the impact of any redundancies.

DAF job fears, page 19

Major is taxed on VAT

BY ROBERT MORGAN, POLITICAL STAFF

JOHN Major yesterday refused three times to say whether the government intended to extend the scope of VAT. It was too close to the Budget to answer, he said.

With a full-scale review of government spending under way and the Budget deficit likely to go close to £50 billion next year, ministers are increasingly being pressed to indicate where cuts are to be made or what taxes are to be raised. During question time the prime minister steadfastly refused to be drawn.

Margaret Beckett, Labour's deputy leader, asked: "Does the prime minister recall his pledge during the election camapign only ten months ago, 'We have no plans and no need to extend the scope of VAT'? Does he stand by those words?"

Mr Major replied: "Mrs Beckett knows we are near to the Budget and she must wait."

Mrs Beckett insisted: "The prime minister made just that promise to the British people when he needed their votes. Why won't he make it now?"

Again the prime minister said she had to wait.

Mrs Beckett, clearly irritated, said that during the election Mr Major and his colleagues promised no change in VAT, no new taxes or charges and no cuts in public spending. She added, to cheers from Labour MPs: "Is it not clear from his refusal to answer a simple question that all his promises had a sell-by date of April 9?"

Downing Street said later that Mr Major would have refused to comment on any taxation matter because of the closeness of the Budget. No inferences should be drawn one way or the other.

AROUND THE LOBBY

Arms sales on course for record

British arms exporters are on course for a record-breaking year, Jonathan Aitken, the defence procurement minister, said at question time. Defence exports in 1992 were £4.5 billion — 20 per cent of the world market. In January this year British companies had already won orders in the Middle and Far East to a value approaching sales for the whole of last year, itself a record.

The order for Tornado aircraft negotiated by John Major with Saudi Arabia last month will provide work for 150 British subcontracting companies as well as for British Aerospace, the main contractor, Mr Aitken said.

Trams backed

Private legislation to give London its first trams for more than 40 years passed an important hurdle when a Lords committee considering representations by the promoters and petitioners of the Croydon tramlink bill came down firmly in favour of the £140 million development. The 18-mile network could mean the demolition of 25 properties and the loss of acres of local parkland.

Passport hope

The defence ministry is attempting to get as many British passports as possible for members of Hong Kong's Military Service Corps, fearful for their futures when China regains control of the colony in 1997, Archie Hamilton, the armed forces minister, said at question time. He accepted that, unlike police and prison officers, their posts would disappear.

War crimes

Some 93 cases are being investigated under the War Crimes Act, Earl Ferrers, Home Office minister, said in the Lords.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Foreign and Commonwealth Office.
Housing and urban development bill, third reading. Social security benefit uprating order.
Lords (2.30): Debates on transport for the disabled, defence and security, and services for mentally disordered offenders.

Amendment raises Euro-sceptic hopes

BY JONATHAN PRYNN

A SECOND Irish referendum on the Maastricht treaty is one of many possible side-effects if the British government is defeated on Labour's amendment to remove Britain's opt-out of the social chapter.

The amendment, proposed by the Labour front bench and supported by the Liberal Democrats and some Tory rebels, will not be voted on by MPs for several weeks but is already threatening to scupper the government's careful stewardship of the Maastricht bill through the Commons.

Legal opinion in Brussels and London on the implications of the amendment remains divided, largely because there is no precedent. At the very least, the amendment would delay final ratification of the treaty and could give new life to the anti-Maastricht movement in Ireland and continental Europe.



Robertson: political soundings in Europe

Labour is convinced that its amendment would require only a brief, technical meeting of member states to approve Britain's social chapter "opting in" and incorporate the chapter into the main body of the treaty. It is currently included in a separate protocol attached to the treaty because of the deal negotiated by John Major at the Maastricht summit in December 1991.

George Robertson, Labour's European affairs spokesman, said the party had taken legal opinion and "fairly considerable political soundings" among Britain's European partners before tabling the amendment, and was convinced that it would not demage the treaty.

Although most lawyers and officials agree that Britain's EC partners would readily accept the change, opponents of Maastricht across Europe would leap at the new opportunity to block the agreement. The legislatures of the 11 would almost certainly have to re-ratify the treaty after such a significant amendment. This would cause most problems in Ireland and Denmark, where a referendum is required. Denmark is not due to hold its second referendum on the treaty until May. The Irish voted in favour in a plebiscite last June.

Ken Murphy, a partner in the EC and competition law department of the Dublin law firm A & L Goodbody, said Irish Euro-sceptics would be likely to apply to the Irish Supreme Court for a new referendum. The appeal would have only a slim chance of success but would add to the uncertainty and delay.

British Tory rebels are lining up to support the amendment in the belief that it would effectively wreck the treaty.

Leading article, page 13

What the MP saw

MPs who have just recovered from a viewing of a Red Hot Dutch video, will soon be subjected to another exhibition of hard pornography (Arthur Leathley writes).

More than 300 MPs and peers are planning to attend the exhibition of obscene material being held behind closed doors on February 24 and 25.

Ann Winterton, a leading Conservative anti-pornography campaigner, said that some of the tapes, books, magazines and satellite and computer-generated pornography on show was horrific. Mrs Winterton, the MP for Congleton, believes that the exhibition will highlight the failure of the Obscene Publications Act in preventing such material being made available.

Tories avoid clash

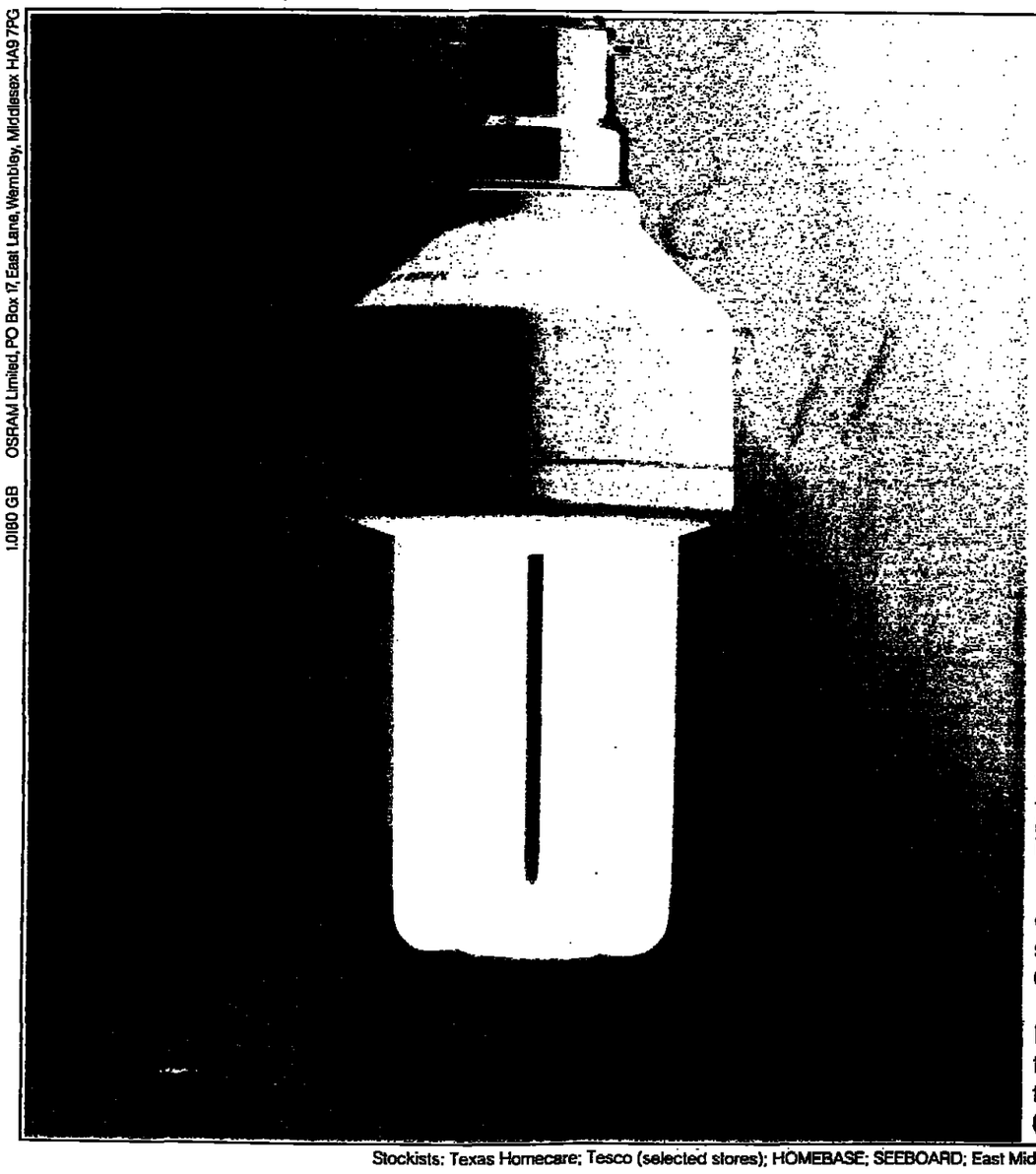
BY OUR POLITICAL STAFF

TORY backbenchers last night backed away from a clash with the government over its plans to allow flat owners to buy the freehold. Many Conservative MPs fear that extended enfranchisement, a government election manifesto pledge, would fragment large freehold estates.

The housing and urban development bill would allow an estimated 750,000 leaseholders to buy the freehold, if two-thirds of the leasehold tenants in a block of flats agreed. The bill, which began its report stage in the Commons yesterday, was condemned as a "sledgehammer to crack a nut" by Jerry Wiggin, one of several Tory MPs demanding greater protection for landlords.

Mr Wiggin claimed the bill would allow foreign tenants who rarely lived in Britain to buy properties at reduced prices. He called for an amendment which would allow only those who had lived in a flat for three years, or for three years out of the last ten, to buy the freehold.

Mr Wiggin withdrew his amendment after Michael Howard, the environment secretary, said that would make it almost impossible for long-term residents to buy their freeholds. People moved on average every nine years, so some leaseholders would be prevented from qualifying because there would always be tenants who failed the three-year test. It would be even more difficult in the worst-managed blocks, where tenants might move more often.



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Conservatives erode Russian president's power base and threaten to shorten his term of office

Yeltsin drops plans to hold April referendum

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday effectively abandoned his plan to hold a referendum on the future constitution on April 11 which was intended to consolidate his presidential powers. Instead, he suggested early presidential elections in 1995, to coincide with those for a new parliament.

According to the news agency Tass, President Yeltsin also called for a year-long moratorium on "all political fist-fighting and other major political events", proposing instead to concentrate on economic reform. Mr Yeltsin said that the referendum was not an end in itself, but was only intended "to stop attempts at a creeping restoration of the past, and to establish once and for all the principle of the separation of powers; as well as to set in motion the creation of a new federation treaty".

This retreat is a heavy blow for the president and a corresponding victory for his arch-rival Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary speaker, and for the conservatives. The referendum was the only significant concession extracted by Mr Yeltsin from the last full meeting of the parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies, in December, when he was forced to drop Yegor Gaidar, his reformist prime minister.

After initially agreeing to it, Mr Khasbulatov in recent weeks swung decisively against the referendum idea, and called for early presidential and parliamentary elections in spring 1994, cutting Mr Yeltsin's presidential term by two years and that of the Congress by one. Mr Yeltsin said yesterday: "I am in favour of early elections, but they should take place on equal ground."

Mr Yeltsin's statement came immediately after he met yesterday leaders of Russia's autonomous republics, most of whom opposed the referendum. The most powerful of them, President Shamiyev of Tatarstan, said before the meeting that the referendum was unnecessary and that instead president and parliament should learn to work together.

A key role in President Yeltsin's decision was played by Valeri Zorkin, chairman of the constitutional court. According to Mr Yeltsin's press spokesman, Vyacheslav Kostikov, Mr Zorkin will now head a "conciliatory commission" with constitutional powers, aimed at achieving a consensus between the different state bodies.

In Russia's almost paralysed political system, Mr Zorkin is now the only "neutral" figure who can broker compromises. He helped prevent an outright split between president and parliament in December and his intervention this week helped Mr Yeltsin to back down while keeping the remains of his prestige. Even before yesterday's decision, Mr Yeltsin had given little public support to the team he appointed to carry out the referendum, evidently calculating that he might be forced to abandon it.

There were threats that Tatarstan and other republics might boycott the vote, repeating against Mr Yeltsin the tactic used by several republics to block President Gorbachev's 1991 referendum on the maintenance of the Soviet Union. In the view of some observers, this could even have threatened the Russian Federation with disintegration and civil war.

☐ **Quetta, Pakistan:** Kazakhstan has closed a Russian nuclear test site long blamed for causing radiation-induced illnesses in the region. People living round the site had been campaigning for its closure for the past ten years. The former Soviet Union used the republic to stockpile 2,000 nuclear warheads. There is also a huge space technology centre at Bikonov in central Kazakhstan which the Russians still use as a missile-launching site. *(AFP)*



Sparring partners: President Yeltsin's retreat on the referendum is a victory for Ruslan Khasbulatov, his arch-rival, and the conservative opposition

Hope for reform blighted as Moscow's strength wanes

BY ANATOL LIEVEN

PRESIDENT Yeltsin's defeat over the referendum issue suggests not merely that successful economic reform by democratic means in Russia may be impossible, but that effective central government itself is in danger.

Unless Mr Yeltsin can come up with some way of escaping from the tightening grip of the parliament, politics in Moscow are headed for years of paralysis and confusion, at a time when a bitter and suffering population is calling increasingly for a "strong hand". The referendum itself was a desperate throw by a president who saw his freedom of action drastically reduced by the Congress last December. He hoped with good reason that the people would vote for a strong presidency rather than a weak parliamentary government.

Such an appeal to the people over the heads of the politicians has served many presidents, most notably de Gaulle, but only when they have had the power to set the question. By last week it was becoming clear that the parliament would insist on a list of questions so long and vague that most people would abstain.

Faced with this threat and the danger of boycotts by the autonomous republics, many of Mr Yeltsin's reformist supporters themselves opposed the referendum idea and proposed instead a constituent assembly elected only to draw up a new constitution: but this, too, is bound to be vetoed by the parliament.

Now that Mr Yeltsin appears to have lost his direction and much of his prestige, it is doubtful whether he will be able to emerge from another hostile Congress with any real authority left. The vagueness of the provisional constitution means that nobody can say where legal authority lies. Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary speaker, is correct when he says that many of Mr Yeltsin's powers are "illegal", but then so are his own, because there is no real law on these matters.

In similar circumstances, other presidents would launch some form of modified coup d'état, aimed at least at imposing a referendum or constituent assembly by decree or holding new elections immediately. To do this, Mr Yeltsin would need the support of the security forces, but this is unlikely to be forthcoming.

There is no precedent in history for a country simultaneously shedding an empire, reforming its economy and developing a democracy, while in the grip of an economic recession coupled with soaring inflation.

In this sense, to attack the present conservative parliament, elected in 1990, as dominated by the Communist establishment is accurate but largely beside the point. It is highly unlikely that new elections held tomorrow, or in 1995 will lead to a more orderly or a more pro-reformist parliament. For the majority of ordinary Russians, the process of reform since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power has been a disaster.

French condemn talkative judges

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

THANKS to a clutch of zealous and leak-happy judges, a touch of soap opera has come to enliven France's mournful election campaign, stirring some vital new questions.

Among the questions are: Did "Béré" — as Pierre Bérégovoy, the working-class prime minister is known — really repay a big loan from an insider trader by giving him antique books; and who paid for the wall around the Mediterranean home of François Léotard, the glamorous contender for high office in the next government?

Since a general election is six weeks away, the public has been feasting on the leaks, charges and decisions from investigating judges, some of whom may have their own axes to grind.



Bérégovoy: severe blow for "Mr Clean"

The most illustrious victim of the judicial offensive is M Bérégovoy, whose image as "Mr Clean" has helped to repair some of the damage to President Mitterrand's administration.

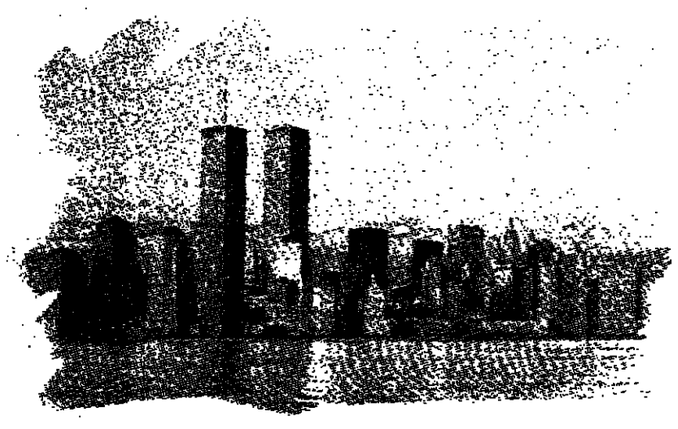
Thanks to Judge Thierry Jean-Pierre, an investigating magistrate who has been crusading against corruption in the Socialist party, France learnt that M Berégovoy had obtained an interest-free loan of £122,000 from Roger-Patrice Pelat, a businessmen, now dead, who was charged with insider trading and implicated in other scandals. According to the family, M Bérégovoy repaid half the loan with books and antiques, a claim that has sparked mirth from cartoonists and television satirists. "Béré" said he had done nothing illegal, but the impact could hardly be worse since he has been leading the anti-corruption drive as well as the election campaign.

M Bérégovoy was given the electoral job because so many party officials have been tainted in other scandals. While the Socialists have been complaining of political motives in the Bérégovoy leak, their opponents are spotting skullduggery in the character assassination, as they see it, of M Léotard, one of the dynamic younger leaders of the centre-right UDF grouping. He was cleared on technical grounds of corruption charges on Friday, but the judges' report raised doubts about his property deals.

The deluge from the judiciary in mid-campaign has prompted pundits to assume some dark conspiracy. More to the point are the complaints over the institution of examining magistrates. The "petits juges" have great powers to conduct investigations amounting to preliminary trials.

A new law, bitterly opposed by the magistrates' union, will limit their powers to bring charges at an early stage. The reform, which takes effect later this year, is intended to stop the damage to the reputation of suspects who are later discharged without any trial. The destruction is often compounded by leaks orchestrated by the judges.

More than 500 magistrates asked to be relieved of their duties in protest at what they see is a law benefiting criminals at the expense of their victims.



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German cuts deepen concern over Nato's dwindling ranks


Rühe: open conflict with Chancellor Kohl

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

■ Germany's defence minister is critical of his country's haste to cash in the peace dividend. His view reflects doubts whether Nato has enough troops for peacekeeping

THE open row that has erupted in Bonn between Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, and Volker Rühe, his minister of defence, over the size of the German army is symptomatic of a general unease in European defence ministries that the armed forces are now being asked to do too much with too few men.

Any further cuts in the Bundeswehr, the biggest army in West Europe, will have immediate implications for Nato's overall capabilities. The sharp criticism last weekend by Manfred Wörner, the Nato secretary-general, that Germany was cutting back too far and too fast, reflects the increasing concern in Brussels that many Nato members are attempting to cash in the peace dividend too quickly at a time when the alliance is being drawn more and more into new peacekeeping roles.

The open revolt by Herr Rühe against Herr Kohl's announcement that the Bundeswehr may go below 300,000 men has been triggered partly by the plunging morale in the German armed forces. However, Herr Rühe's attitude reflects the worries in German military circles and in Nato that the alliance is becoming dangerously overstretched.

Herr Kohl insisted on Monday that Bonn would not do anything without lengthy consultations in Brussels. He shares the worries of many here that, if the European forces are reduced too much, the Americans may be tempted to make further cuts in their force commitments to Europe.

But he knows that the soaring deficit and the cost of reunification will force deep cuts in the defence budget, and that these will only aggravate the worries of other allies that Germany is still not ready to take part in new Nato peace enforcement measures in former Yugoslavaia. Hence also the chancellor's impatience with the long domestic wrangle over a possible change in the constitution to allow German forces to be deployed out of the traditional area.

Nato's worries are not confined to Germany, however. Herr Wörner emphasised in Munich the alliance's new commitment, endorsed at last year's Oslo meeting, to make forces available for peacekeeping out of the traditional area. But each month the pool of soldiers available is shrinking. The Dutch and Belgians have already announced the halving of their forces by 1998 — from 63,000 to 36,000 and from 68,700 to 27,500 respectively.

Other countries will greatly reduce numbers: the Italians from 260,000 to 174,000, the French from 288,000 to 224,000 and the Americans will cut the number of personnel in all services in Europe from 375,000 to 100,000.

Nato sources yesterday gave details of the dwindling manpower that will be available to the alliance. According to the plans officially notified to Brussels, the overall force levels have already fallen by 10 per cent since 1990 and are due to be cut by a further 15-20 per cent by 1997.

Naval forces have come down 10 per cent since 1990 and are not due to fall much further. The combat aircraft committed to Nato have decreased 20 per cent since 1990 and will fall a further 10 per cent in the next two years. These figures are to be presented to Nato foreign ministers at the end of this month in what looks like a cry of alarm from Herr Wörner. His main worry is that there could be further cuts not yet notified to Brussels, and that member states are now less willing to co-ordinate reductions with the alliance headquarters.

The force structure will also be affected. The rapid reaction forces are in fact oversubscribed, with each country offering to make men available for these divisions. But this is at the expense of the main Nato force, where countries are reluctant to commit themselves to the more expensive undertaking. The alliance agreed in 1991 on five corps for the main defence forces: two Dutch-German corps, two American-German corps and one Belgian-led corps with German and American divisions. "We now know that, of these five corps agreed in 1991, at least one will no longer be possible," a source said.

This contrasts with the alliance's proclaimed readiness to undertake peacekeeping operations. In fact, the situation is worse than it looks on paper. Most of Europe's big armies are swollen by conscription. But there are deep doubts whether the French or Germans — assuming they resolve their constitutional difficulties — could send national servicemen on dangerous missions such as Bosnia.

"Conscripts are not properly trained and hardened," one Western official said yesterday. "Those on peacekeeping missions have got to be very versatile, and this requires more than 12 months of training."

UN big powers look at ways to give Bosnia plan teeth

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BRITAIN and other key powers at the United Nations yesterday began drawing up proposals to toughen the Bosnian peace plan prepared by Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance to make it more acceptable to the Bosnian Muslims and their allies abroad.

The options under consideration include enforcing a no-fly zone over Bosnia as part of an overall peace settlement, setting up a special human rights commission and a war crimes court for the former Yugoslav republic, and authorising warplanes to attack any heavy weapons that violate the ceasefire.

In Washington yesterday, US officials said that President Clinton's top advisers had agreed the outlines of a diplomatic initiative to resolve the Bosnian conflict, but had yet to agree on how to enforce any eventual settlement. The administration is expected to appoint a special envoy to help negotiate an improved version of the Vance-Owen plan, but has not decided whether American military power should be used to police that plan. America's European allies would probably insist on US participation in what is envisaged as a Nato policing operation mounted under UN auspices.

One European diplomat said: "We can't just wait for the Americans to take us by surprise." The diplomat went on: "The latest vibes from Washington are that they are thinking pretty much along the same lines as the rest of us, although they cannot yet say so."

When Lord Owen and Mr Vance briefed the UN Security Council about their plan on Monday night, council members were less concerned about the idea of dividing Bosnia into ten semi-autonomous provinces than they were about whether the plan could actually be implemented, even if signed by all sides in the conflict. Sir David Hannay, Britain's ambassador, told the council session that Britain would start drafting proposals to ensure that an agreement would not immediately be broken. Britain quickly scheduled talks with the other four permanent members of the security council — China, France, Russia and the United States — and its European Community partners to discuss possible additions to the Vance-Owen plan.

Lord Owen and Mr Vance estimate that between 15,000 and 25,000 peacekeeping troops will be needed to implement the peace plan. But Britain and other security council members want to add more teeth to the implementation of the plan to accommodate the concerns of the Muslim-led government.

These council members believe, like Lord Owen and Mr Vance, that a peace agreement will have to be accompanied by enforcement of a no-fly zone over Bosnia with UN monitors placed at all Bosnian airfields and Western warplanes under UN authority patrolling the skies. Diplomats say that the planes used to enforce the no-fly zone would also be used to monitor heavy weapons after a ceasefire, and could be authorised to attack any heavy weapons found to be in violation of the peace accord.

If enacted in a security council resolution, these proposals could allay Muslim fears that the Bosnian Serbs will not withdraw their heavy weapons from areas awarded to the Muslims. Other proposals likely to be included in a new security council resolution are the creation of an international criminal court to try Bosnian war criminals and a special human rights commission to monitor human rights in the republic. The resolution is also likely to guarantee the unimpeded access of UN aid convoys throughout Bosnia to ensure that aid reaches besieged Muslim towns. Such moves could also be proposed by the Clinton administration.

Mr Clinton is expected to unveil the new US policy of "aggressive diplomacy" before the end of the week. America would seek to improve the present plan, so it did not reward or "appease" Serbian aggression. The hope would be to secure Russian participation in the new negotiations, thus transforming Moscow from a potential obstacle into an ally. Russia has threatened to veto any new sanctions against Serbia, with which it has traditional ties.

Pressure would be put on the Serbs to accept a new plan through tightened economic sanctions, in particular the severance of the Danube as a supply route and the creation of a war crimes tribunal.

Simon Jenkins, page 12
Letters, page 13


Winter burden: two Sarajevo women returning home yesterday after foraging for firewood in an abandoned house, a vital daily task

Sarajevo feels betrayed by absentee politicians

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN SARAJEVO

TEN months after the start of the siege of Sarajevo, soldiers and ordinary inhabitants are increasingly frustrated with the shortcomings of the civilian authorities, complaining that they do little to ease their plight.

"Our army has done everything while the politicians often obstruct the war effort," Colonel Joyan Divjak, deputy commander of the army of Bosnia-Herzegovina, said. "They have failed to organise the supply of arms, munitions and equipment and have neglected the social problems of the army. This has a bad effect on the morale of our soldiers."

Colonel Divjak, an independent-minded Serb fighting with the mainly Muslim army, said it was unfair that workers in Bosnian munitions factories receive up to six times the pay of a soldier and that civil servants still work fixed hours from 9 to 5. "One day the political authorities will have to settle their account with the army," he said in his simple office decorated with a picture of Tito. "There are many who have done well out of this war, selling on the black market and obtaining enormous amounts of foreign currency. The government will have to explain that at the end of the war."

In an attempt to reduce popular dissatisfaction, President Izetbegovic last week dismissed several ministers who used their position to go abroad at the start of the siege and have remained there ever since while continuing to draw their salaries. "Fifty per cent of government members are outside Sarajevo," Colonel Divjak said. "Some of them were supposed to gather funds for Bosnia-Herzegovina. They wandered around Europe, but we have not seen any money. Others prefer to stay in the hotels of Zagreb."

Muhammad Krezeiyakovic, mayor of Sarajevo, has remained in the Bosnian capital since it was attacked by Serb forces last April. But he is scarcely more popular than the absentee ministers. "The mayor does nothing except make clumsy propaganda. We were better off under Tito," a Sarajevo journalist said.

Network of hatred traps mercenaries

BY ADAM LEBOR

BRITISH volunteer fighters Derek Arnold, 40, and Ted Skinner, 38, were reportedly found trussed up and shot after being tortured near the frontline village of Turbe, in central Bosnia. It is not known who killed them, but their deaths illustrate the murky and perilous environment in which foreign fighters in Bosnia operate.

In theory Bosnian Croats and Muslims, together with dozens of foreign volunteers from Europe and several hundred Mujahidin from Arab and Islamic countries, are united against the Bosnian Serb army. But the Croat-Muslim alliance is crumbling in places as fighting between them erupts. The strictly Muslim Mujahidin are disliked by the Croats and also by some Bosnian Muslim fighters, especially the many women soldiers and officers.

Skinner and Arnold could often be found at the Bosnian army headquarters in shell-battered Travnik, where they had a flat, eating with their comrades-in-arms. They were well known to local soldiers, several of whom they had trained.

Like many volunteers — they said they were paid nothing and denied they were mercenaries — the men were initially secretive, wary of talking about themselves. But in an interview last month with *The Times*, they outlined their reasons for fighting in Bosnia. They described themselves as "soldiers of misfortune" and were after adventure but also seemed genuinely committed to the Bosnian cause.

Skinner drew a parallel between the foreign fighters in Bosnia and the International Brigades that fought in the Spanish civil war. "That was a practice run for Germany, using Spain as a testing ground for the Condor Legion," he said. "It would be terrible if the same thing happened here. If they get away with it in Bosnia, who's to say they won't in Kosovo?"

There are no reliable figures for the number of British fighters in the Bosnian army, but there are probably at least dozens. Most say they have served in the British army.

Starvation drives out Muslims

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

THOUSANDS of Muslim refugees have been fleeing by night through the woods of eastern Bosnia. Officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said yesterday they feared that up to 50,000 more people were about to run for their lives.

The UN officials said the Muslims were travelling along "humanitarian corridors" opened by the Serbs. However, the officials believed that the corridors were in fact funnels through which enclaves resisting Serb rule were being emptied. "They are being starved and shelled out by Serb irregulars who do not want us to to deliver food or assistance," said Sylvana Foa, the refugee agency's spokeswoman in Geneva.

More than 300 refugees are fleeing from the enclaves of Kamenica and Cerska every day and others are joining them from the Serb-controlled town of Zvornik. In the past ten days 5,000 refugees have arrived in Tuzla. Many are reported to be suffering from scabies, malnutrition, lice, and frostbite.

In Belgrade, the refugee agency said that on January 30 the Serbs in eastern Bosnia told the Muslims in the enclaves that as a "humanitarian gesture" they could leave for Muslim territory. One official said the Muslims left after food ran out. Judith Kumin, the head of the agency in Belgrade, said: "This is 'ethnic cleansing' by another name".

In Belgrade, officials from the Serb-held enclave of Krajina in Croatia insist that Croat forces killed 830 civilians as they stormed over the ceasefire line last month, though the Red Cross says about 200 people are "unaccounted for". In Benkovac refugee camp, three witnesses told of the death of a Serb woman in the village of Islam Grcki. "Olga wanted to find her husband," said one. "She ran towards her house but five Croat soldiers were already on the terrace. They told her to stop, but she turned to run and they mowed her down." Another witness said he saw Croats cut the throats of a married couple.

□ **Zagreb:** A street in the Croatian capital has been renamed after Mile Budak, a deputy to Ante Pavelic, the leader of the second world war pro-Nazi puppet state. Budak, a writer who became minister for education, drew up laws banning Jews from the arts and other public offices. *(AP)*

Kravchuk faces tough fight on aid

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Kravchuk of Ukraine arrived in Britain yesterday for talks that are likely to test his chameleon-like qualities.

Mr Kravchuk will be pressed to do more to stop Russian oil reaching the rump Yugoslavia via his republic, in contravention of United Nations sanctions. He also faces tough negotiations on his desire for huge economic aid from the West and on the Start I strategic arms reduction treaty. The three-day state visit is the first by a president of what is now Europe's largest nation-state, and Mr Kravchuk set the tone for his trip before leaving home when he said that he wanted aid, but would not tolerate any conditions put on it.

The president, who will meet today John Major and Jacques Attali, head of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, said: "If the West wishes to provide help, it must be done now and not, as is often said, after essential things have been done or specific reforms carried out."

Ukraine has been less than euphoric about its relations with the West since the Soviet Union disintegrated, even though Whitehall recognised the Kiev regime on New Year's eve in 1991 and opened an embassy in the Ukrainian capital ten days later. Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, visited the country a few days after that, but Ukraine has been slow to forget that Baroness Thatcher reacted to its campaign for sovereignty in 1990 by comparing it to Quebec.

Leading article, page 13

NEWS IN BRIEF

Walesa rescues budget

Warsaw: President Walesa threw his weight behind Poland's shaky seven-party coalition government yesterday by threatening to dissolve parliament if it fails to approve this year's budget.

Losing the vote would hit the government's economic policy and would jeopardise a deal with the International Monetary Fund, which holds the key to agreements with other foreign creditors.

Mr Walesa said: "I very much want this parliament to continue to exist because we have so much to do, but we cannot go on playing much longer. Society wants results from us." *(Reuter)*

Gang unveiled

Paderborn: German police have arrested three men suspected of being part of an international gang forcing East European schoolgirls into prostitution, after finding four under-age girls with false passports. *(Reuter)*

Briton held

Le Boulou: French officials have arrested a Briton after finding 121lb of cannabis in the car he was driving. The man, reportedly returning from Morocco, was detained at a motorway toll booth outside this town near the Franco-Spanish border. *(AFP)*

Busy line

Moscow: Children in Chisinau, Moldavia, have been running up huge telephone bills, some ten times the average monthly wage, by calling an Australian sex line to hear a Russian-speaking woman explain "how to make love", Tass said. *(AFP)*

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Ivan the Terrible's treasures unearthed

FROM REUTER IN MOSCOW

RUSSIAN archaeologists believe they have found the library and treasures of the 16th-century tsar Ivan the Terrible buried in an "underground city" north of Moscow, *Pravda* said yesterday.

Ivan Koltsov, an archaeologist, told the newspaper that he had come across the treasures, including priceless works of art, in a labyrinth of tunnels and underground chambers at the site of what was once Ivan's palace. The complex now lies beneath a monastery near Alexandrov.

Access to the area was denied by the church until the Communist revolution in 1917 when it was sealed by the Bolsheviks. But folk memory of the treasure remained alive. Researchers found a letter by an inmate of one of Stalin's gulag labour camps offering to lead the way to the chambers, which he said he had seen three times. As a reward he demanded freedom, a luxury state limousine, five million roubles, a three-room flat with furniture and the right to study at the university of his choice. His letter, *Pravda* said, was noted with derision and filed.

Mr Koltsov said he had spoken to an old woman, the last curator of the monastery before the Bolsheviks seized it, who recalled the chambers and books. He had also come across children in Alexandrov playing with gold artefacts. They said they had found the articles in underground tunnels opened up by landslides and long used by local people as a dump.

Mr Koltsov gave no details of the find beyond saying they were a unique legacy of Slav culture. Archaeologists had long sought the library of Ivan, a tyrant who laid the foundation of the modern Russian state in a series of ruthless wars of conquest, under the Kremlin. But, as with any treasure hunt, there were many false alarms. Many believed that Ivan had destroyed the books.

"Today we can say without any doubt that what we have found is the library of Ivan, books which were last seen by the contemporaries of the bloody tsar," Mr Koltsov said.


Tsar Ivan: books found in "underground city"

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

Washington team suffers ordeal of aliens 'witch hunt'

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

■ The agitation over employers of illegal nannies is trivial enough. The political ineptitude involved, however, reveals unsettling signs of worse stumbles to come

WASHINGTON is witnessing a latter-day version of the Salem witch hunts, the search this time being not for servants of the Devil but for employers of illegal immigrants.

All candidates for hundreds of unfilled administration jobs are being asked if they have ever employed such people or failed to pay social security taxes for household servants. Apart from Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood, President Clinton's first two choices for attorney-general, at least 12 people are said to have been passed over because they failed this new litmus test of the baby-boom generation.

America's newspapers are displaying still greater puritanical zeal, methodically assailing every member of the cabinet and Congress and demanding to know if they have ever violated employment laws.

"I was, of course, accosted on the way in by 30 or 40 rabid journalists who stopped me and said: 'Have you ever hired an illegal alien? Have you paid social security taxes?'," Bruce Babbitt, the interior secretary, told an audience this week. He had replied 'no' and 'yes', and "there was a disappointed silence".

Employing illegal immigrants has been against the law since 1986, but the social security laws date from 1954 and are patently ridiculous. They require housholders to pay taxes for any household employees earning more than $50 (£35) a quarter. The going rate for babysitters in Washington is $6 an hour, so many better-off households pay babysitters that much in a week and, according to the Inland Revenue Service, three-quarters of the two million American households that employ domestic servants fail to pay the required taxes.

Astonishingly, only one member of the cabinet, Ron Brown, the commerce secretary, has admitted violations. Of the 100 senators, 88 told *The New York Times* that they had broken no employment laws, 11 would not answer and one, Patty Murray, of Washington state, admitted paying no social security taxes for babysitters. Of 435 congressmen, a remarkable 398 insisted on their innocence.

Hardly surprisingly, the new front runner for attorney-general was reported yesterday to be Janet Reno, 54, a Miami prosecutor who is single and childless. So far, as *The Washington Post* put it yesterday, "Mr Clinton & Co have made a real hash of the selection". Commentators are flabbergasted that the president's team has bungled the choice not once, but twice, offending women and Hispanics in the process.

The row erupted just as the new administration was finding its feet and has revived all the charges of political ineptitude that marred Mr Clinton's first two weeks. Clearly missing the sharp populist instincts of his brilliant campaign team, the president has now brought back his chief strategists, James Carville and Paul Begala, the pollster, Stanley Greenberg, and his media adviser, Mandy Grunwald, to recreate the campaign "war room".

Their main task will be to sell the economic recovery plan that Mr Clinton will unveil in next Wednesday's State of the Union address and the health care reform plan that Hillary Clinton is striving to complete by May. Mrs Clinton is now overseeing 20 working groups and 100 health care experts who are frantically working on ways of reforming an $800 billion system that consumes 14 per cent of America's gross domestic product, leaves 37 million people uninsured and has long defied reform.

It will, of course, be on Mr Clinton's success in these two related areas that voters will judge him in 1996, by which time the dispute over domestic servants will be remembered, if at all, as an amusing little diversion. But the unsettling side of the affair is what it discloses about the new president. If he is really to revive the American economy and reform health care, he must make some extraordinarily hard decisions, take on numerous powerful lobbies and foist the idea of sacrifice on a nation pampered by 12 years of reckless deficit-financing.

Doing the right thing by Judge Wood was a mere trifle by comparison. Unlike Judge Baird, she had broken no rules in her pre-1986 employment of an illegal immigrant as a nanny and had paid the proper taxes, but the president decided the distinction would be too hard to explain to the public. Ms Wood was dropped "as if she were suddenly ethically radioactive," the *Los Angeles Times* said.



Faithful's farewell: Palestinian mourners take a last look at the body of Saad al-Din al-Alami, the Mufti of Jerusalem, one of the most senior religious leaders in the Islamic world, outside al-Aqsa mosque in the Old City. The mufti, 82, died of natural causes on Saturday

NEWS IN BRIEF

£1bn boost to economy offered by Keating

Sydney: Paul Keating, the Australian prime minister, has launched a $Aus2.6 billion (£1.2 billion) federal election campaign package to stimulate the failing economy (Robert Cockburn writes).

Delivering his main economic statement in Sydney to launch Labor's campaign, he avoided direct job-creation measures. The package will commit $Aus1.8 billion to lowering the corporate tax rate from 39 per cent to 33 per cent to try to increase investment and job prospects. Unemployment figures tomorrow are expected to top one million.

French add to Rwanda force

Kigali: France sent 150 more soldiers to Rwanda after guerillas of the Rwandan Patriotic Front continued to fight government troops around Ruhengeri, in the northwest. The French foreign ministry said the troops were sent to ensure the safety of its 400 nationals in Rwanda. *(AFP)*

Colmar: Negotiations held in France between Togo's military regime and its opponents collapsed over a dispute about whether army troops should be confined to their bases during elections in May. *(AP)*

Governor killed

Peshawar: An explosion killed Yasrullah Mansouri, governor of Afghanistan's eastern Paktia province and leader of the Islamic Revolutionary Party, and four other people on a road south of Kabul. *(AP)*

Tourists shot at

Assiut: Muslim militants shot at a bus carrying German tourists near Dayrut, in upper Egypt, 195 miles south of Cairo. No one was hurt. *(Reuter)*

Gun suspect



Los Angeles: Damacio Torres, above, 40, of Los Angeles, who surrendered after he allegedly shot and wounded three doctors in a city hospital and then held a doctor and receptionist hostage for five hours. He was apparently angered at medical care he received. *(AP)*

Fever kills 500

Nairobi: An epidemic of yellow fever has so far claimed 500 lives in the Rift Valley province of Kenya. Health officials have begun a mass vaccination campaign.

Clinton ends Aids immigrants ban

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton will lift a contentious six-year ban on people infected with the Aids virus from travelling or emigrating to the United States, White House officials said yesterday. They confirmed that the US health department has prepared details of the proposed change but no decision has been taken on when it should go into effect.

Immediately there were rumblings from Republicans and others that the admission of visitors or immigrants who were HIV-positive would pose a public health threat, adding new pressures to a health-care system already overburdened with Aids cases.

Removal of the ban would implement one of Mr Clinton's campaign promises, but he must be hoping the proposal does not provoke the same outcry that greeted his determination to fulfil another pledge of allowing homosexuals into the armed forces. Dee Dee Myers, press secretary to Mr Clinton, said he shares the feeling of doctors that letting HIV-infected foreigners into America does not represent a public health threat.

Homosexual and rights groups have fought the ban, saying it was discriminatory and a violation of privacy, but President Bush argued that people with Aids might become public charges.

☐ **Pay and perks cut:** Mr Clinton cut the payroll and perks at the White House yesterday. He announced that 350 jobs would go, a quarter of the total. He also restricted the use of chauffeur-driven limousines from home to work to just three officials, and turned an executive dining room into a cafeteria for all.

Stepsister attacks 'cover-up'

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

BILL Clinton's stepsister, who spent six years in a Texas jail for armed robbery and drug offences, has accused the president and his advisers of trying to keep her quiet by concealing her during the American election — a charge which has been denied by the White House.

Dianne Welch, 46, became Mr Clinton's stepsister in 1968 when his mother, Virginia Kelley, made her third marriage to a hairdresser named Jeff Dwire. On American television last night Ms Welch said her famous stepbrother should be "ashamed" of trying to muzzle her — the self-styled "black sheep" of the family.

"I would like him to call me and apologise," she told the television programme *A Current Affair*. "Bill Clinton's Democratic party tried to shut me up. They tried to hide me away."

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers has acknowledged that the president and Ms Welch are related, but she dismissed the other claims as "simply not true". Ms Myers said Mr Clinton barely knew his stepsister, and had not spoken to her since 1975. Ms Welch was already married when Virginia Kelley married her father, and Bill Clinton was away at university. Jeff Dwire died in 1974.

Ms Welch's criminal career began in 1985 after the collapse of her marriage to Buford Welch, the owner of an oil company. She was arrested for stealing about £622 at gunpoint from a building society in Sugar Land, Texas, and placed on probation. When she was caught with about 50lb of marijuana the following year she was sentenced, she says, to 45 years in prison. She was released from Gatesville prison in Texas last year after an appeals court ruled she had not been properly informed of the consequences of violating probation.

Ms Welch now claims that Texas Democrats took her to a hotel before the presidential election last November and urged her to keep quiet about her criminal past. Ms Welch said she believed her stepbrother was behind the request.

In last night's interview she said she would like to have a family reunion with the president. The White House has not yet responded to the offer although Ms Myers said yesterday that Ms Welch was was "not likely" to be invited to the White House in the near future. "He doesn't have much occasion to know her," she added.

A spokesman for the television programme refused to say whether Ms Welch had been paid for the interview, but said "We do sometimes pay for exclusivity."

Mercy killing on the statute book

Dutch drive on down the liberal fast lane

BY TOM WALKER

THE legalising of euthanasia yesterday demonstrates once again that the Dutch are at the leading edge of social change in Europe. The Netherlands is Europe's most liberal society in areas from mercy killing to drugs and sexual mores.

Amsterdam has Europe's largest pornography industry, and brothels are now legalised and prostitutes given a health check-up every other month. In a typical café on the Scheldt estuary in southern Holland, hashish and marijuana are all listed and priced on a menu card hanging above an electronic balance. A bearded hippy carefully weighs the quantities and packs them into sealed plastic bags; the youths return to their tables and much fumbling with cigarette papers begins. It is all washed down with orange squash.

Den Engel — the angel — may be an extreme example of Dutch permissiveness, but soft drugs can be commonly obtained in bars across The Netherlands with the minimum of fuss. In Amstelveen, on the outskirts of Amsterdam, youths smoke dope, listen to Guns 'n' Roses and play chess. To the English mind, liberal Dutch society is full of jarring contradictions.

The Dutch parliament's decision yesterday to allow mercy killing is, however, subject to strict conditions. The guidelines stipulate that a request for euthanasia be made personally by the patient, not by family or friends. The patient must be suffering unbearable and incurable pain, request death repeatedly and be in a clear state of mind. A second medical opinion must be obtained. The measure does not formally legalise euthanasia, which is still punishable by up to 12 years in prison. Instead, it codifies existing medical guidelines approved by parliament as a defence against criminal liability for physicians practising euthanasia. Doctors who follow the guidelines, although they still would be technically violating the law, will be guaranteed immunity from prosecution.



Dissenting voices: opponents of euthanasia pray and read their bibles outside parliament in The Hague

With the euthanasia bill now passed, the Dutch parliament in The Hague will now turn its attentions to a bill to establish equal rights for homosexuals. It will forbid the sacking of gays from jobs simply because they have "come out of the closet".

This is in keeping with Dutch liberal sensibilities. The age of consent, 12, is lower than anywhere else in Europe, and drug addicts have their own union. All hotels seem to make an endless variety of cabled sex films available on television. For years the government has sponsored artists to produce art that nobody wants. The welfare state may have gone barmy in Holland, but to the casual observer Dutch society ticks on like clockwork, perhaps the most regimented country in Europe after Germany.

Nine-to-five working hours are strictly adhered to and lunch breaks are quickly finished with. The stricter side of Dutch life shows itself in tough environmental laws, and almost draconian traffic rules where drivers can have their cars confiscated for speeding offences. Companies are about to get tax breaks for encouraging the use of electric cars.

Arendo Jochstra, a Dutch journalist who has written a book on Ruud Lubbers, the prime minister, says the country's openness dates back to its roots as a trading nation. "We went to the East Indies, China, and Japan specifically to trade," he says. "We have to be open and tolerant. In the 17th century we were the only country to be allowed a trading post in Japan."

Traditionally, he says, Dutch society has divided itself into "pillars" — Roman Catholics, Calvinists, Jews and other groups. Tolerance between the pillars was preached but within them strict rules were observed. He says that system has now broken down into a more open society "where we have practical plans for each group, and it seems to work".

But The Netherlands is far from perfect, and behind the multicultural and tolerant society lie many of the problems besetting other European countries. Leniency on soft drugs may have helped control the problems with hard drugs, but violence is commonplace and football hooliganism is an ever-present problem.

Dutch vote, page 1

Parliament rejects Mobutu sacking

BY SAM KILEY IN KINSHASA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

ZAIRE'S interim parliament yesterday rejected President Mobutu's order that Etienne Tshisekedi, the prime minister, should step down. The president sacked Mr Tshisekedi on Friday and ordered him to form a government "of public salvation".

The High Council of the Republic rejected the demands, but acknowledged "the necessity and the urgency" of forming a new government. It said Marshal Mobutu's demands were "inadmissible in view of his lack of power to dismiss the prime minister". Marshal Mobutu is expected to ignore the self-elected council.

The meeting of the council in the capital, Kinshasa, had been delayed for several hours while paramilitary police blockaded the streets round the parliament. The blockade was lifted at noon without any explanation after discussions with the government.

Elsewhere in the capital the streets were jammed as drivers queued to buy petrol from the handful of garage owners prepared to risk accepting the recently introduced five-million zaires note. Soldiers started looting ten days ago after Mr Tshisekedi's government called for a boycott of the note on the day on which the army was paid in the currency.

President Mobutu said last week that those petrol stations who refused to accept the five-million note would be seized by the state, while Mr Tshisekedi's supporters have resorted to murder to keep them off the streets.

Most petrol stations preferred to stay closed rather than risk being burnt to the ground for accepting the new bills or being seized for not doing so. Economic analysts agree that the introduction of the bill, worth about £1, was necessary to keep up with 1,000 per cent inflation.

Mr Tshisekedi said the currency would be inflationary. It is clear, however, that he wanted to force a confrontation with the president over who runs the economy.

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America sets EC concessions as price for Gatt deal

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY, WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU AND GEORGE BROCK

AMERICA served notice yesterday that it was looking for further concessions from the European Community in talks tomorrow in Washington aimed at salvaging a new deal under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), now more than two years overdue. Sir Leon Brittan, the European Community trade commissioner, is due to meet Mickey Kantor, the United States trade representative.

Raymond Seitz, the American ambassador to Britain, defended recent action to keep out European steel imports and exclude EC firms from public procurement contracts, and said President Clinton was prepared to take further protective steps if other countries would not lower trade barriers.

Mr Seitz told the annual conference of the National Farmers' Union in London: "President Clinton is looking for a strong signal that Europe is equally prepared to take the hard decisions necessary to bring the [Gatt talks] to a successful conclusion .. To open up markets, he is prepared to lower barriers if others will follow suit; if not, he is prepared to enforce our trade laws." The ambassador said that Washington still saw last November's agreement between the EC and the United States on reducing farm subsidies as the "linchpin" of a Gatt deal.

There was growing frustration in Washington that "six years of negotiating multilaterally have failed to produce an equitable trading agreement, so there is an increasing disposition at home to deal with the inequities unilaterally", Mr Seitz said.

The sanctions against European steelmakers and the ban on European telecommunication and generation companies bidding for lucrative US federal procurement orders were prepared by the Bush administration.

But there are indications that the new administration is about to impose the first "Democrat" trade sanctions, on European and Japanese minivans and utility vehicles. The signs in Washington are that the strategy of singling out specific products for trade sanctions will continue, if not accelerate.

However, Sir Leon may find that the Clinton administration does not yet appear to have a coherent policy on resolving the seemingly never-ending issue of the world trade talks themselves.

The administration's deadline for presenting a Gatt accord to Congress is March 2. This deadline is almost certain to be extended until the summer, but not much longer since this would make the very concept of a deadline even more ridiculous than it has already become.

Sir Leon has been talking down the chances that Brussels and Washington can reach any quick deals. But EC sources also point to the urgent need for EC-US contacts to produce some results. Disputes over steel and public procurement could quickly become fully fledged trade wars if Europe and America cannot jointly improve the world's multilateral free trade rules.

A very present help in trouble

Libby Purves talks to Father Bernard Lynch, a homosexual and a Catholic priest, about what he learned when he was accused in America — and found innocent — of abusing a minor

It is difficult, on encountering the mild eye of Father Bernard Lynch and hearing his gentle Irish voice overlaid with faint New York twangs, not to find yourself forming the phrase "an innocent abroad". This man's personality is so very self-effacing that you look from him to his book, *A Priest on Trial* (Bloomsbury, £16.99), and wonder that they can be connected at all: for his life story is the stuff of epic and blockbuster with shades of Graham Greene, and his manner that of a nice, polite, young, country priest from co. Clare.

Which is precisely what he is. Or was, before life took him across the Atlantic, into the crisis surrounding the advent of Aids in a fearful, angry city, and thence into the dock in one of the scandals of the century. "Irish priest on sex charges", trumpeted the headlines, and "Pro gay priest accused of sex abuse". He was accused in 1988 of sexual abuse of a 14 year old boy and acquitted a year later in the Bronx Supreme Court as the prosecution case collapsed amid accusations of an FBI set-up. It is an experience from which he is, he says, only now recovering. "It's the penultimate charge, isn't it?" he says almost wonderingly. "Horrible . . "

Bernard Lynch grew up, the eldest of six, in the far west of Ireland where his father drove a cart from the train station with the parcels. They were poor and devout as church mice, the children's treat being to creep into the local hotel for the sheer thrill of walking on carpet. When a concert ceremony demanded that every parent present their child with a box of chocolates, his mother had to wrap an empty box to keep the family's public pride intact.

Twenty years later he had celebrated Mass alongside the Pope in the Yankee stadium and become a chat-show icon, loved and hated with equal passion across America. The little Irish altar-boy, for whom everything behind the rails was magic, with "God there in his golden box" and the linen and the flowers so dazzling, this child of the church whose "purity" was safeguarded by the Dominic Savio Club (its teenage members strictly forbidden even to see a screen kiss), became a young priest who struggled for baffled years with his own sexuality.

The docile pupil of the nuns became a teacher himself, and was to be run out of his job by a pressure group called Safe — Students Against Faggots in Education. He gave the last sacraments to Aids victims and carried them in body-bags through the streets in search of a funeral parlour that would even have them through the door; and found himself involved with American legal politics and violent pressure groups. This is the innocent abroad who was, in a storm of international publicity, found to be innocent of all charges. And who now looks back down the long road from Cloughballymore seminary to the Bronx Supreme Court dock and defies the Vatican by affirming that he is homosexual, not necessarily celibate, and yet a priest. *Tu es sacerdos in aeternum*, in the words of the ordination ceremony that so frightened him two decades ago. A priest for eternity.

> 'Priests are born, not made. I was born a priest and born gay and I cannot deny my nature nor reject the religion I grew up in'

In his mild manner, and with a certain amount of defensive laughter, Fr Lynch explains where he stands as a priest. He works at Cara (Care and resources for People affected by Aids/HIV) in London, a religious support group, using his training as a therapist. We talked in his tiny counselling room while downstairs Cara's friends and clients ate a crowded "open lunch" (I was offered food the instant I walked in).

"I am still a member of my order, the Society of African Missions. I am still a priest. Technically I am on leave of absence. I can celebrate Mass, and give the sacraments, and often do." At the end of his book he reveals that he had a steady relationship with a man, which broke up; at present he has no such relationships, but is at odds with the church over the issue of priestly celibacy as well as homosexuality. "If you have the gift of celibacy it is a wonderful gift to bring to the priesthood, but there is a place for priesthood without celibacy. Priests are born, not made. I was born a priest and born gay and I cannot deny my nature nor reject the religion I grew up in. I would like the institutional church to change, but I am still in love with the Mass, the saints, the sacraments. I could as soon lose my skin as leave it."

All of which, though spoken with gentle, priestly humility, is fighting talk. The Vatican line today remains what it was in 1986, when the Pope issued a letter saying that homosexuals were "disordered in their nature and evil in their love".

Fr Lynch's frankness begins to explain the heat of the feelings his Aids work and ministry aroused in the mid-1980s, that highly-charged and terrified period of American homophobia. It makes it a little easier to understand how between a newly-appointed district attorney, a zealous FBI investigator and the machinations of Safe he ended up in the dock, notably unsupported by the Archdiocese of New York, fighting for his freedom against allegations brought by a disturbed and abused boy he had counselled during his years as chaplain at Mount St Michael School in the Bronx.

The school time was previously a period he saw as one of his happiest. After the simplicity of Ireland and the bleakness of an African mission station, the chance to study psychology and work in a New York school was a liberation. "I was still pretty naive. The students were a far cry from the meek obedient Irish lads of my day." They brought him their drug problems, their stories of abuse, requests he found "astonishing — such as 'Father, my girl friend is pregnant, can you loan me the money for an abortion?'. I was the closest thing to a father many of them had known."

That the accusation grew out of that innocent period is something he still finds hard to talk about. The trial ended in April 1989 after the boy refused to give more evidence and admitted to having been "cajoled" by the FBI agents, presumed by the defence to have been influenced by the pressure groups against homosexual teachers at the time. The experience left him shattered. "I am still in recovery. That anybody could believe it . . . it was very difficult to stay believing in myself. I had friends who knew me, had known my struggle with sexuality, the whole mosaic of me — and whose disbelief in the story was fortifying. It helped that in real cases of abuse there has generally been a lot of smoke, other allegations and so on, beforehand. And here it was just the one boy. But it was terrible."

ADRIAN BROOKS



Survivor: Fr Lynch now works in Britain with a religious support group for people affected by HIV

He could never, he says with rae emphasis, have assaulted a boy. "The link between gayness and paedophilia is such nonsense. People like Safe made that link, and it is psychologically wrong. We, gays, are more resilient, more resistant. We have had years of inoculation. For heaven's sake, we have taken showers with our own gender since childhood, and not strained any feelings we might have. We are probably less likely to do it than a heterosexual confronted with a schoolgirl."

What happened, he says, was that the boy, abused previously and "believing that to gain affection he had to offer himself for sex", tried to seduce him. "I told him that such a relationship was wrong and impossible. I also assured him that I was still his friend. The day after the incident I called the head counsellor at the school and reported it."

Students Against Faggots in Education, however, ran him out of his job after he had become a highly visible spokesman for homosexual Catholics in the city during the furore surrounding employment rights for gays and the rising panic about Aids.

It is hard now to remember how things were in those years, before Hollywood and royalty began embracing Aids patients. For Fr Lynch "it was not unusual to go to the hospital and find Aids patients' meals left stone cold at their doors since the orderlies were afraid they would catch the disease. Parents and families did not want to know . . . more ashes of PWAs [Persons With Aids] have gone into the Hudson River than I care to remember." When he went on the Phil Donahue Show on television in 1986, a man came up and said: "We are going to find a boy to accuse you." At the time, he thought nothing of it.

But all through the involved, sulphurous tale of fear and loathing through his defiance of the present Vatican, there runs a warmth, even gaiety in the older sense. The kindest face of rural Catholic Ireland is still with him: his mother, before her death, wrote lovingly and acceptingly about his announcement of his sexual orientation. His father, despite being besieged by press over the shame of the trial, appeared on television "with me at his side, and said to everyone that he loved me and was proud of me". And he says that no harsh Papal words can take his church away from him.

He writes in his book that, as an altar boy "quite simply, I loved the church. There I felt secure, loved and accepted, and everything was in its place and everyone was gentle and kind. I could be close to God in the Tabernacle and every time it was my turn to cover the altar with the cloth I would whisper 'Jesus, I love you'. I really believed He heard me, cared for me and understood me as no one else did. I still do."

TOMORROW

Eventually, some prophets proclaim, "cybersex" could be better than the real thing. "If you are the kind of person who is longing for things you don't have in the world," says Mike Saenz, a "cybersex" pioneer, "you could realise your dreams."

The Times/Jameson Whiskey Event

Irish night out



The Times and Jameson Whiskey are offering readers the opportunity to taste and compare Irish whiskeys on February 15 and March 15. The tasting will be followed by a four course dinner with coffee and wine and a Jameson for just £35 a head at Mulligans restaurant, Cork Street in Mayfair. Mulligans is the only Irish restaurant in Mayfair. John Ryan of Irish Distillers will lead the tutored tasting at 7.30pm and an Irish fiddler will play the occasional jig.

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JOHN JAMESON & SON

Soldiers' boots, bones and barbed wire

A team of photographers has spent three years, and covered 375 miles, recording the last, poignant relics of life — and death — in the trenches

Seventy-five years after the guns fell silent on the Western Front, the site of the worst slaughter in human history seems to be giving up its ghosts. Intensive farming, urban sprawl, forestry and roads have reclaimed much of the blighted northern French landscape, leaving neat war cemeteries as the main witness to the death of four million in the first world war.

Yet, even now, anyone who ventures deep into the eerie woods covering the old trench lines in Picardy, Champagne or the Ardennes will come across hideous reminders of the war to end all wars. Left behind by the farmers, developers and souvenir-hunters are the dug-outs, barbed wire, graffiti, bones and the detritus of the soldiers' lives in the trenches. Something of the physical reality of Verdun, the Somme, Ypres, Cambrai and those other epic battles has been preserved in a photographic survey, completed last week by a team led by a French-American artist.

Jean Cartier has devoted the past three years to surveying the 375-mile front from Ostend to the Franco-Swiss border, with financial support from the Leverhulme trust and the French authorities. He conceived the project after a visit to Verdun in 1984. "I discovered that everything was still there. You still had French army wine bottles, ammunition, shells, soldiers' boots, bones, barbed wire."

M Cartier, whose photographs will be exhibited in France and in the Imperial War Museum, London, later this year, says that a few fortresses, such as Verdun, were preserved as museums, but otherwise: "They put up nicely carved cemeteries with lawns and flowers. Everything became very clean. The memory of the war became sanitised. It wouldn't be bearable to envisage a loved one lying in a garbage heap. But that's what a battlefield looks like. You had tins cans, excrement, old paper, dead rats, bodies mixed up with clothing. I thought enough photographs have been taken of monuments. What is left of this garbage dump interests me because nobody is looking at it."

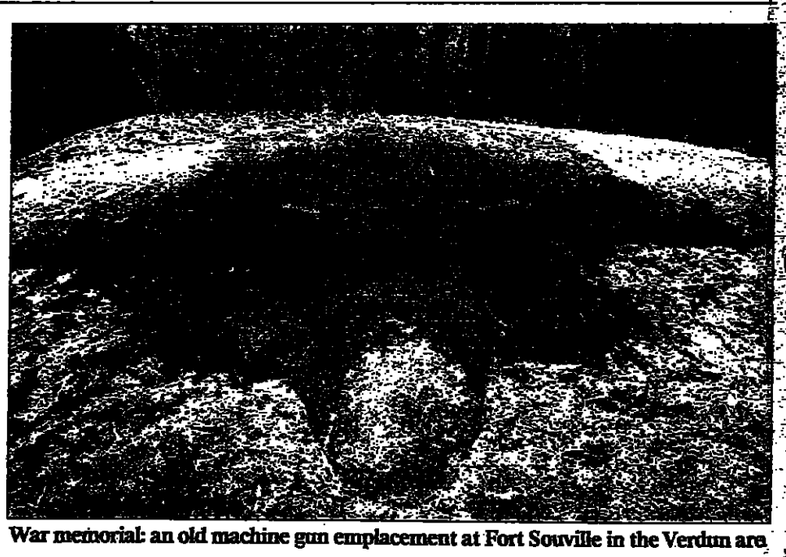
The relics in M Cartier's photographs are a mixture of the sinister and the pathetic. A human jaw-bone lies beside the rusting tins of what may have been a last meal. Machine gun emplacements, barbed wire and gaping craters give an inkling of the fire that faced the men who went over the top, dying.

The graffiti are the most moving memorials. Sometimes scrawled, sometimes carved elaborately into the walls of quarries, bunkers and farm buildings, these record the passage of long-gone units. F. Longford of the 20th Welsh and C. Thomson of the Royal Naval Division left their names on one wall at Loos. "We Germans are only afraid of God," says a carving at one ruined field headquarters in Lorraine. A quarry wall at Aisnes records the residence of both French units and the Prinz Carl grenadiers of Prussia. "Blighty Hall" is scrawled over the lintel of a British dressing station in the Ypres salient in Belgium (the wounded treated there could expect a ticket home).

Many of the relics M Cartier photographed lie deep in the forests which have grown over the old trench lines, places where unexploded ordnance still poses dangers for the unwary. Despite the effects of thousands of tonnes of high explosive and poison gas, nature is gradually reclaiming the land, with the help of developers.

"This is a last look at the front before it is gone," says M Cartier, who moved to New York in 1951 after a childhood in the France of the second world war. He is, he says, appalled by the disappearance of the world wars from the collective memory. America is worst, he says. A recent survey suggested that 80 per cent of young Americans believed Russia fought alongside Germany in the second world war.

CHARLES BREMNER



War memorial: an old machine gun emplacement at Fort Souville in the Verdun area

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Delusion is the name of the don't-wannabe-bald man's game. **Barbara Toner** reports

The roots of obsession


JULIAN HERBERT

As if we hadn't guessed: Elton John, top, Burt Reynolds, left, and Frank Sinatra with thatch on the bald patch

Nothing about men is more enduring or mysterious than their ever popular passion for the ginger wig. Even the rich and famous, especially the rich and famous, apparently prefer to look daft with something fake and funny on their heads than to admit they are balding.

Wig, weave, hairpiece, transplant — what ever it is, it is mad. You could admire the scalp worn naked and with dignity but you can't admire coir matting. You can look a bald man in the eye but where do you look when he's pretending he's not? You hesitate to name names because no one likes to hear the joke is on them, but have you seen Burt Reynolds?

The man was a balding sex symbol and now he has a crop of curls on his head that looks to me as if it was dropped on him from a great height. This is not an observation you would make to Ed Katz, replacer of hair to the stars, because Mr Reynolds not only wears but publicly endorses Mr Katz's product and Mr Katz is fierce.

He announces at once that he has $3 million (£2.1 million) worth of law suits out against newspapers who have not treated his business with the solemnity it deserves. "So many people joke about it," he snaps. "If a man loses his hair, he loses his sexuality and his confidence. When he becomes bald he becomes inferior."

His product, on the other hand, is infinitely superior, the best in the world, hair replaced so expertly that it can be worn 24 hours a day, shampooed and combed and what's more it weighs less than three grams. It's not a wig, it's not a piece, and no surgery is involved. Hair is just replaced with other stuff, which may or may not be hair. As for ginger, he scoffs at ginger. "Oxidisation from using the wrong products," he says curtly. The answer is proper products, finest in the world, and perfect colour matching. When you ask why there are so many duff hairpieces on heads that should know better, he replies: "Why does the Queen of England not know how to dress? Money does not buy class. Eighty-five per cent of men don't know what looks good on them."

This is confirmed by David Hamilton of Wig Specialities, the London firm which says that half of its clients are famous. Its policy is "least is best"; its speciality is the featherweight hairpiece updated every three or four years.

"It's amazing how people see themselves," Mr Hamilton says. "We say, 'how about a bit of grey to blend with the grey of your hair?' and they say 'no grey!'. They have an image of themselves when they were young and that's what they want, so we do it and it looks absolutely disgusting. Sometimes we'd like to put a card around their necks saying 'the customer asked for this'."

Stuck the firm may be with a two-toned head but it does its best to avoid the ginger. "Toupées fade," Mr Hamilton says. "It's real hair and the sun takes the colour out of it."

If delusion is the name of the don't-wannabe-bald's game, the $64,000 question is who are they kidding? According to Ed Katz and David Hamilton, it is the rest of us because by-and-large their work goes unrecognised. They will not name clients because once their work is spotted it has failed.

"You can mention Burt," says Ed Katz grudgingly. David Hamilton admits to Sean Connery and David Niven but only because the former couldn't care less who knows, and the latter is not in a position to. "Just before David Niven died, he came to see us because he wanted a piece for the back of his head. He was going to appear at a function with Fred Astaire standing on one side of him and Gene Kelly on the other and he said they'd be looking as if they were wearing stair carpets so he wanted something subtle."


Michael Milken, junk bond king, before and after jail sentence



But why had he bothered? Why do any of them bother? The London hairstylist Joshua Galvin, himself as bald as an egg, says hair loss is far from being a fashion disaster. "If you're going bald there's lots you can do with what's left but you shouldn't try to wrap it and you shouldn't chase your parting all over your head." He thinks men, generally vainer than women, are kidding themselves if they think hairpieces will make them look younger.

Sometimes you can't avoid seeing yourself as others see you. David Hamilton says that Paul Daniels gave up wearing his notoriously ginger wig after *Spitting Image* did a sketch called One Man and His Wig in which he featured. Mr Daniels's manager, however, says this was not the case. Mr Daniels gave up wearing a wig because he felt happier without it and he only wore one in the first place because he lost his hair when he was very young. "People accept you for what you are," the manager says sagely.

Elton John's manager is less sage, though the singer's hair is just as interesting. He says Elton certainly wouldn't talk about it and nor would he. Elton's publicity agent, however, is more forthcoming. He cannot comment on why Elton wears a weave but he can report that he is very happy with it and that he has it tightened and maintained regularly.

This will not be cheap. Ed Katz was coy about the cost of his hair replacement. Stabs in the dark put the annual outlay somewhere between $1,000 (£700) and $10,000 (£7,000). Wig Specialities' hair pieces, being more modest, cost in the region of £400.

They must be worth it but God knows why. So does Ed Katz. He says bald people have been persecuted back to the days of the ancient Egyptians and Greeks and that today's society is as baldist as ever.

Yet to wear something fake takes guts. This is a wiggist, weavist society as well, not for the men who get away with it, you understand, but for the men who don't and we all know who they are.

Super role model for girls



SARAH MOWER

My worst inteview ever was with Isabella Rossellini. She was in London on a promo job for Lancôme and her patience had apparently been worn down by two days' relentless questioning by beauty editors. Or maybe she had PMT. Anyway, when I asked her an innocuous question about the difference between modelling and acting, she suddenly blew up. "What do you mean?" she barked. "That modelling is so shallow and acting so deep and unfathomable? Are you calling me stupid?"

Goodness me, of course I wasn't. I'd thought merely that Ms Rossellini — being both an actress and a model — might offer some intelligent insight into the imaginative processes, and the physical strains, that go into fashion photography, a subject rarely written about from the model's point of view. Ms Rossellini was having none of it. From there on the interview was a disaster, and I made my excuses and fled.

These days, the imputation of stupidity is not one that a journalist should lay, even unintentionally, at the door of a successful model. Where once we shook our heads over the long-term fates of vulnerable, uneducated girls who went into modelling to fall prey to drugs, men or psychological trauma, we must now respect them as smart and in control of their own destinies.

Out on the fashion circuit, you can see the effect in operation at all levels of the modelling business. In Paris during couture week, I was riveted by the sight of an apparently underage girl in pigtails and the skimpiest grunge get-up who was turning astonished heads at La Stresa, a restaurant packed with magazine editors, store buyers and photographers. At five yards, she looked the classic defenceless child-model, but she turned out to be a British graduate on the make. Pigtails, indeed! Absolutely *perfect* as a post-Kate Moss self-marketing ploy. And it was working — everybody in the place had to know who she was. No fear about who was manipulating whom *there*.

At the top end, models are turning the tables on another of the time-honoured processes of fashion, too. Where a model's job was once, by definition, to obliterate her personality in order to put over the designers' vision, now she is almost as likely to set trends the designers follow. A case in point is Helena Christensen, the Danish model, who began showing up for fittings and photo sessions in antique 1930s chiffon dresses at a time when all the other girls were in skin-tight Alaïa. Eighteen months later, the catwalks are full of wafting 1930s chiffon and Helena looks like the cat who got the cream.

The new canniness of the would-be model and the extraordinary wealth and influence of the made-it model may be among the least foreseen victories for the forces of feminism. Feminists, indeed, may not approve. Many middle-class mothers will have had anxiety fits when their 14-year-old daughters came home clutching copies of the new fanzine, *Supermodel*. How difficult will they find it to argue the case against modelling, when the million-dollar contracts, the work-out videos, the television shows and commercials of Cindy, Claudia, Naomi, Christy and Linda are slavishly enumerated in every issue? And how difficult will they find it to counter-blast a teenage tantrum with the example of the young female role-models we had to look up to in our youth? Think about it: we had none.

Our teenage magazines were full of adoring stuff about male pop stars and the summit of our dreams was to imagine being their girlfriends. Now, at least, the dream package gives the girl the limelight and the earning power, and makes the pop star *her* follower. Which fantasy is the healthier?

I can offer only one shred of current anti-modelling evidence for desperate mothers. It came in Jonathan Ross's interview with Naomi Campbell last week, during which she lamented having been photographed in a compromising position in Madonna's book, *Sex*. "It upset a lot of my friends and family," Ms Campbell said. When he asked how it happened, she pleaded, "I didn't know what they were doing and when I turned up on the set it was too late to back out."

Ms Campbell's mistake sounded curiously like the classic trap all mothers believe their daughters will fall into at the beginning of a modelling career. The difference is that Ms Campbell is one of the most well-paid and experienced girls around, and she still did it. It seems that even smart, tough, multi-millionaire models sometimes do stupid things, after all. (Incidentally, Isabella Rossellini appeared in the book, too. I wonder what *her* excuse was?

Quality — on the button

The shirt-makers of Jermyn Street are decidedly a cuff above the rest

Is the "Jermyn Street shirt" still a byword for the very best of British quality and under-stated elegance? Or has the term been irredeemably debased by high street retailers and mail-order companies who shamelessly offer "Jermyn Street" cut, fabric and finish for — it is implied — a fraction of the price?

The most renowned shirt-maker in this famous street in the St James district of London is Turnbull & Asser — established over 100 years ago, and for the past decade by appointment to HRH the Prince of Wales.

"We regard their use of the Jermyn Street name as a compliment," says the company's retail director, Eric Humbles. "It has become something of a generic term for excellence in the field — the Savile Row suit, the Rolls-Royce and so on — but each of the shops here is proud of its individual reputation: there is no one shirt style available, we all have our hallmarks."

Indeed — and those of Turnbull & Asser are the most recognisable: very deep collars, a slim body cut (squat-necked fatties would be well advised to go for the made-to-measure service) and *three* buttons on the cuffs.

All the sometimes quite startling fabrics are woven exclusively for the firm, in quite short runs, only the more basic plain colours and Bengal stripes surviving from season to season. This ensures that a visit to the Art Nouveau shop is never, ever dull: Turnbull shirts bridge the gap between traditional quality and the zingiest of the new — as is true also of the firm's unsurpassable ties and jackets.

Hawes & Curtis, further down the street, is a part of the Turnbull company (actually owned by the Al-Fayed brothers of Harrods fame) but here the basic shirt is rather different; still the beautifully smooth two-fold cotton and split yoke construction that is the basis of any Jermyn Street shirt, but a smaller collar, a fuller body — and only two buttons on the cuff. Patterns and colours tend to the more conservative, very much on a par with Harvie & Hudson (now in the third generation of family ownership, and whose drab and utterly homely premises have remained blissfully unchanged for decades) and Hilditch & Key — the other main player in the game.

The really good news, however, is that none of this excellence costs nearly as much as the uninitiated might imagine: the average price for a shirt is around £60 — although even Turnbull & Asser (which tends to be the most expensive) offers a basic plain at £51, the most expensive off-the-peg offering coming in at £115. Even for the sybaritic pleasure of having shirts made to measure, the average cost is £85 (although Turnbull stipulate that the initial order must be for at least half a dozen — each as different as you please).

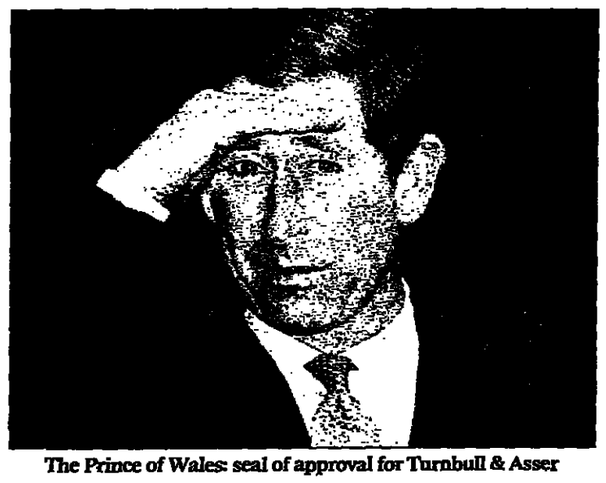
James Meade, the principal mail-order company for high quality shirts, which regularly invokes the cachet of the Jermyn Street name, offers its product at around £40, while the estimable Thomas Pink of nearby Dover Street somehow manage to sell the real thing at about that price.

But which shop — regardless of price — sells the very best shirt in London? The answer is far from cut and dried, because of the factors that may not be immediately apparent when the shirts are pinned and baled in their transparent wrapping.

If you want the boldest, most up-to-the-minute patterns and you are possessed of a flat stomach and an elegant neck, Turnbull & Asser is the place. If you like the ritzy patterns idea, but would prefer a less severe collar and a slightly looser cut, then I recommend Hawes & Curtis — possibly the friendliest shop in the street. For slightly more traditional fabrics and an easier cut yet, you should go to Harvie & Hudson and Hilditch & Key, while Thomas Pink has the most generous cut of all, although the patterns fail to set the world alight.

JOSEPH CONNOLLY

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The Prince of Wales: seal of approval for Turnbull & Asser

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Alan Coren



■ English literature will be enriched by television and a cup of instant coffee

This is a big week for English literature. It is not every week that English literature is presented with both a milestone and a yardstick. Or possibly a milestick and a yardstone, since we may well need the former to compare this literary week with all the thousands of literary weeks which have preceded it, and we may well one day need the latter to mark the fact that English literature did not, perhaps, advance quite as far as this week had led us to hope.

This week, a new novel was published called *Love Over Gold*: a shrewd title, in that one end of it suggests romance, the other end suggests money, and the middle suggests what it general suggests, these days. However, in that these three threads have ever comprised fiction's commonest woof, there is nothing new about this new novel except the *way* in which it is new; it is that alone which makes it novel. For it is the story of two people whose sexual haggling has already been carried out in front of us since 1987, in order to persuade us to buy the instant coffee granules which brought them together. Though not as together, mind, as we might have expected after six years of witless ogling and simpering; even for a culture whose fiction has always relied so heavily upon the principle of procrastinated consummation, this was stretching things a bit, or, as it were, not, which was why I fell so eagerly upon the review copy Corgi sent me yesterday: I wanted to know what was wrong with the pair of them, they look all right on screen, no obvious signs of bad breath or funny little habits, could it be that Gold Blend made you impotent? No, take that knuckle from your teeth, I am here to tell you that they finally wind up in the sack, so with the £3.99 I have just saved you on the book, you may safely run out and buy two large jars of the coffee, no harm will come to you.

So how can such an ordinary literary work make this such an extraordinary literary week? Because, as I read it, I could see the people, I could hear the people, I could *know* the people. I have never before been able to enjoy the same certainty with any other novel. Tell me *exactly* how Raskolnikov grins, how Gatsby talks, how Clarissa crosses her legs, and as for the minuscule but unspecified details of personality ... as Mrs F.R. Leavis (the smarter half) remarks in *Fiction and the Reading Public*, "it is not merely that novelists are doomed to the inevitably inadequate description of their characters, they can never know what prejudicial encumbrances the reader brings to them." In short, if you read that "Brodski was a small fat man with wispy ginger hair and little piggy eyes", and your Uncle Norman looks a bit like that, your Uncle Norman becomes, ineradicably, Brodski.

But there is more to it than that. Characters are what have stopped me, hitherto, from writing novels. I have a drawerful of plots and a a processorful of words, but I cannot do credible characters. He is a tricky cove, your Johnny human, limitless of nuance, and I have never been able to get one down on paper so that he came believably off it. Now, however, thanks to television and the signpost so auspiciously nailed up by *Love Over Gold*, I (and, at a guess, countless frustrated hacks like me) need have no more fears. Once, I might have written: "A tall, gaunt, horse-faced man strode into the room. At first, all eyes were riveted upon his floral tie and his scarlet socks, but when he spoke, it was with a curious nasal lilt which instantly bespoke that unsettling mixture of authority and dottiness which suggested that ... "

Now, neither of us is much nearer anything, are we? I could ramble on for a dozen pages not getting him quite right, by which time you would be back at Waterstone's sorting out a credit note. But this week, all that has changed: this week, I can write, "Jeremy Paxman strode into the room", and we all know instantly, where we are. Similarly, I could get him to run away with Judith Chalmers, push Bruce Forsyth off Beachy Head, open a whelk stall with Trevor MacDonald, and my readership would have no difficulty at all in tuning to my precise wavelength.

I leave you now. The muse calls, and it may well be that *The Giant Melvyn of Sumatra* is a story for which the world is finally prepared.



The swamp of civil war

We will pretend to help Bosnia, knowing that if we sink too deep we can always get out. Where's the morality in that?

Simon Jenkins

As a gesture of support for the Owen-Vance peace plan, the BBC on Monday screened Martin Bell's *Panorama* documentary on the Bosnian civil war. It was a ferocious plea by a brave reporter for the world to intervene. But it ended with a tendentious assertion:

"To intervene will cost lives; not to intervene will cost more. It is fundamentally a question of whether we care."

I am sure Mr Bell would say that he was unbiased except in his abhorrence of war. Whereas newspapers still use restraint in what they picture, television does not. We were given the pornography of violence and the pornography of grief in full flood. We had screaming injured, full frontal nudity and slit throats. We had detailed, gory (and unsceptical) accounts of "systematic child rape". But Mr Bell showed both Serb and Muslim atrocities and emphasised that, in civil war, horror knows no boundaries. He showed what he saw and he saw a lot.

But he was biased. He used the images to make the world want to "come and stop the killing". He never said how. He wanted to blot out thought. His was a bias against understanding. Such heart-rending reports have become the recruiting songs for America's "new world order". They are moralistic and defy criticism. Similar peons to intervention goaded America into Vietnam and Beirut. Later the same reporters return to ask, "Who got us into this mess?" The captains and the kings depart, with mocking cameras in attendance.

I could plead with the BBC for a right of reply. I might try to lead viewers through the implications of Monday's *Panorama*. I might argue that Bosnia's ethnic upheavals will not be reversed for a long time, least of all by outside force; that external policemen at best freeze territorial gains (as in Croatia), at worst become everybody's target (as in Beirut).

I, too, might use emotional images of the accidents of thoughtless intervention: corpses in the Congo, dead marines in Beirut, Chouf villages smashed by naval gunfire, the fried bodies of Iraqi civilians. I could play the drumroll over the bodybags. I could protest at the only-whites-matter hypocrisy. Why no *Panorama* about this week's atrocities in Kabul or Nagorno-Karabakh or southern Sudan? Are the corpses not Western enough? World order becomes a moral issue only when "close to home".

Western governments are rightly fighting shy of the Bosnian hysteria, but their nervousness is palpable. The Owen-Vance plan is what Lord Owen calls "the only show in town" — true if by town you mean America.

It is a deft constitutional carve up of Bosnia that struggles to reflect the balance of power on the ground. But it does not give the Serbs all they now have, nor does it give the Bosnians what they believe outside intervention and more arms shipments might bring. Both thus have an interest in continuing war. War is still the only show in the town that matters.

If Mr Bell made nothing else plain on Monday, it was that this is a classic civil war and one that has by no means achieved the point of exhaustion, where each side collapses under the authority of the nearest guarantor of order. That point has been achieved in Lebanon. The Syrian intervention was postponed by Israeli and then multi-national attempts at "peacemaking", a peace that left thousands dead. The Syrian army was guilty of atrocities that make the Serbs seem like angels. But it has brought a sort of peace to Lebanon because Syria's security requires it. The Serbs and Croats will partition Bosnia between themselves and like Cyprus it will be grimly peaceful — sooner or later.

But sooner or later? The Owen-Vance plan could conceivably make it sooner, if America accepts the plan's realpolitik and disappoints Bosnia's lobbyists, if it sends 25,000 troops to police Owen-Vance's ten cantons as an "act of faith". Just conceivably, the prospect of 25,000 American troops in United Nations' colours flattening every supposed Serb enclave in Bosnia might help burn out the war — more than it inflames Slav nationalism and draws Russia into the conflict. Just conceivably it might induce the Serbian units to stumble apologetically back to their diminished cantons. Just conceivably, blanketing Bosnia in Western infantry mandated to kill might impose a breathing space, even spare some lives for a while. Just conceivably the breathing space might not be used by the factions, as were all previous ones, merely to re-arm for revenge when the West goes home (as reportedly now in Somalia).

This is a truly monumental list of ifs and conceivablys. Far more likely is a morass of guerrilla firefights across Bosnia between random UN units and local warlords over the control of individual tracts of land. To find a model for this we need not look back to Beirut or Southern Lebanon, simply to Krajina last week. UN trusteeship is not appropriate to a land at war not with its neighbours but with itself. Ruling Bosnia from outside would be hell, and only postpone a bigger hell.

Yet we seem about to try this "only game in town", to appease public opinion by cynically proclaiming a version of Owen-Vance that Western governments privately accept will probably prolong the war. The cost will be high: perhaps thousands of British and American troops jammed into warring communities across the mountains of Bosnia, getting killed wherever a ceasefire fails to hold.

Mr Bell tells us fewer people will die as a result. History says he is wrong. It tells us that more people die when outsiders intervene than when a civil war is burning itself out. I know of no case where a plan like Owen-Vance has worked. Mr Bell is reaching up to us from a swamp. But he is trying to drag us into it, on pain of being called heartless. We will pretend to help, knowing that if we sink too deep we can always get out. Where is the morality in that?

The Bosnian war has revealed a painful gap in modern international relations. The UN charter supposedly protects all states, autocratic as well as democratic, from interference in their internal affairs. It also upholds the principle of self-determination. America has taken to tearing this up where it suits the president of the day, most recently in Iraq. But nothing is in its place, certainly nothing to explain to the world where and why intervention is justified and can be expected.

The end of communism is leading to a fragmentation of states into their ethnic components. This is said to be bad and to be resisted. Warren Christopher, President Clinton's new secretary of state, recently called for "preventive diplomacy" to ensure that ethnic groups live at peace with each other inside existing states, "or we'll have 5,000 countries rather than the hundred plus we have now".

That may cause the state department a headache, but who is Mr Christopher thus to lay down the law? If Antigua, Luxembourg, Latvia, Slovenia, why not fragmented even partitioned Bosnia? He may say there must be some framework of regional stability. If Greater Syria is tolerated, why not Greater Serbia? Thus does morality slide into double standard.

I believe a reversion to small states, even tiny tribal ones, is probably the inevitable post-communist precursor to rebuilding big ones. Civic responsibility must be rooted in domestic security before communities will surrender power to distant authority. Small states are the political equivalent of small businesses. Democracy like capitalism must grow from the bottom up. The Owen-Vance plan for ten autonomous Bosnian provinces is thus theoretically sound. They must sense self-determination on the ground or each enclave will fight for it to the last ruined farmhouse.

But that is a constitutional principle, not a peace plan. It cannot be imposed "top down" over the barrel of a UN gun. Sending thousands of "peace-makers" to Bosnia will have the same effect as it has had in Northern Ireland. It will relieve local leaders of the obligation to take even the first step to peace, the step of compromise. It will freeze hatred before violence has spent itself. It will kill more people in the end. And in the end Greater Serbia will still exist. I would love the Owen-Vance plan to work, but I cannot believe the mountain of bluff required for its implementation will not be called.

Mr Bell claims that intervening is a sign of caring. I disagree. In Bosnia it means asking soldiers to risk their lives and more Bosnian lives, merely to get a particular pile of corpses off the nation's screen. That is not caring. It is a way of trying not to care.

Reality confronts the ANC

R.W. Johnson on power-sharing, the only option

The re-opening of formal constitutional talks between the South African government and the African National Congress today has been accompanied by copious press leaks about the conclusions to which these talks have come — the power-sharing compromise to last at least until the end of the century. These leaks are possible because both sides have realised that domestic and international confidence will not easily survive another calamitous breakdown of negotiations, and so secret meetings have been going on for months.

Formal talks can reopen now only because these pre-negotiations have pretty well sewn up the power-sharing deal in advance. Only the fact that both sides will probably use the talks to secure last-minute advantages will prevent them from bearing a purely rubber-stamp and ceremonial character.

The agreement represents a notable success for President de Klerk who has consistently argued that a simple majority-rule system would be disastrous for South Africa. But the real architect of the compromise is the Communist party (SACP) leader, Joe Slovo.

Early on it appeared that the ANC's bargaining position would be undermined by its doctrinaire insistence on the continuation of the armed struggle by its guerrilla wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), and by its commitment to the sweeping nationalisation of the means of production. Both commitments stemmed from the movement's ideological past; both were opposed by a great chorus of domestic and international interests; but both were recited like mantras by the movement's militants on the ground.

Mr Slovo, for long the boss of MK, was quick to realise that his outside left status would make it easier for him to lead change. First he helped push through a commitment to "suspend" (and in practice, abandon) the armed struggle and then he floated a discussion paper, "Has Socialism Failed?" The paper itself amounted to little, but the sight of the SACP boss airing public doubts about socialism had the, doubtless, desired effect: all trace of the nationalisation pledge faded out.

Constitutional negotiations broke up last year essentially because the ANC could not agree to two key government demands — for power-sharing and federalism. Before long, wiser voices within the ANC began to urge the inevitability of power-sharing: with whites holding all the top positions in business, the army, police and civil service, the only alternative to power-sharing is a complete shambles. Moreover, all opinion polls show that the vast majority of Africans prefer the power-sharing solution to that of majority rule.

So, late last year Mr Slovo again moved to break the deadlock, this time with another discussion paper in favour of power-sharing. As before, this paper was then pushed through the ANC apparatus by the usual old organisational tricks the SACP had learned in Stalinist times.

All of this begins to make it seem likely that Mr Slovo will, remarkably, become a key figure in the new coalition government when it is formed. President de Klerk may justify Mr Slovo's inclusion to conservative whites by claiming that this leopard really has changed his spots, but the real point is simply that if Mr Slovo is calling the ANC shots, it is better to have him doing so from inside the government rather than outside. The notion that South Africa could become the only country in the post-Cold War world to invite communists to enter the government is no less surreal than that the triumph of African nationalism should propel to power Mr Slovo — a white Jewish lawyer in his Sixties, suffering from cancer. These ironies have been duly noted by the Pan Africanist Congress and the ANC's more Africanist elements, but paucity of strategic thinkers in the ANC leadership alone seems enough to guarantee Mr Slovo's position as long as his health allows him to continue.

Federalism — the most significant form of power-sharing of all — is the great question which remains. Without large concessions on this issue by the ANC, it is impossible to imagine a lasting peace with Chief Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader, or the white right. Indeed, to refuse federalism is to risk secession and the break-up of the country in much the same way that the Soviet Union fell apart. But it will be hard enough for the ANC to sell power-sharing to its more militant followers — and the PAC will exploit the situation for all it is worth — without having to sell concessions to Chief Buthelezi on top of that. Yet this is the only sensible way out of the impasse: there is simply no precedent for a country as large and diverse as South Africa even attempting democracy without federalism.

The danger exists that the ANC will feel it has done enough by compromising with white power and that in practice Mr de Klerk will collaborate with it in crushing Chief Buthelezi. This would be the road to a bloody civil war. The power-sharing agreement is the best news South Africa has had for three years. It would be better still if we were soon to hear that Mr Slovo was about to circulate a new discussion paper, this time on the subject of federalism.

The author, a fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, is engaged on research in South Africa.

Chamber of honours

IT IS not only the Tory landed gentry who will rise up from the shires to fight John Smith's plans to reform the House of Lords. Some of Labour's hereditary peers are none to happy with the scheme, outlined by Smith in *The Times* yesterday, under which hereditary peers would be barred from the upper house.

Lord Longford, who has been in the Lords for more than 40 years, agrees that the hereditary principle is indefensible. "We have the best debates in the world, but the worst possible voting system," he says. But Smith's plan eventually to replace the Lords with an elected second chamber fails to impress the veteran penal reform campaigner. "The only people who would stand for election would be failed politicians, politicians who are not good enough for the House of Commons, or old politicians," says Longford, himself aged 87.

The longest-serving member of the Lords, Lord Listowel, who took his seat in 1932, has heard it all before. "Many have threatened us with extinction. But once Labour gets into power, the composition of the Lords slips down the priority list." Listowel, at 86 still an active member, does not agree that the hereditary peers should disappear quickly. "They make an enormous contribution to the quality of our debates. Rather than abolish them I would allow the present generation of hereditary peers to be the last one. But they would have to forfeit their vote."

Smith's pledge, however, delights Labour's youngest hereditary peer, 34-year-old Lord Ponsonby of Shulbrede. Ponsonby says: "I for one would be delighted to hang up my ermine. I said in my maiden speech I would abolish the House of Lords in its present form, and I stand by that today." Not that Ponsonby would be lost to politics. "It would enable me to stand for election to the Commons."

Elders and betters

ELDERFLOWER champagne may be just the tip of the icebucket. But while Monday's High Court judgment has delighted Thorncroft Vineyard, which is to be permitted to continue selling its soft drink under that name, it has received a mixed reaction from other manufacturers. Richard Purdey, chairman of Merrydown (which also makes an elderflower "sparkling wine") reluctantly says that to maintain its competitiveness, Merrydown may have to follow suit.

Others, however, are less convinced. Babycham, still smarting from its defeat at the hands of the champagne houses in 1978, says it would not want to use the word anyway. "People know us as Babycham and we sell far more bottles in this country than champagne."

There is certainly a precedent for soft drinks calling themselves champagne. Colin Emmins, former director of the British Soft Drinks Federation, says that in the 1890s one could buy "raspberry, strawberry, kola and even chocolate champagne — which sounds ghastly. The temperance movement was very strong then. They thought people who were damned by drink could be saved by a non-alcoholic drink with an alcoholic name. It sounds like supping with the devil to me."



● *Health officials in the West Midlands are cashing in on the success of the new Dracula film. They have set up an advertising campaign for donors for the Birmingham blood transfusion service in the foyer of the UCI cinema at Merry Hill, under the banner "Don't be a Victim, be a Donor". Apart from the restorative cup of tea, new donors also receive a pair of free tickets for the vampire epic. Fangs very much, as they say in the Black Country.*



Light my Fire

PROOF POSITIVE that *The Times* is a newspaper you can never put down. Peter Dobbie, political editor of the *Mail on Sunday* was so engrossed in his copy yesterday at La Poule au Pot restaurant in Victoria that he failed to notice it had caught light on a candle on the table. Silence fell over the restaurant, which was packed with MPs and reporters, as the flames crept up the paper. It was only when his guest, Kenneth Warren, the former chairman of the Commons trade and industry select committee, walked in that Dobbie realised that he had become the burning issue of the day.

Without further ado, Warren snatched the paper, marched it into the street, and jumped up and down on the flames. Returning to the restaurant with his hands above his head, he was given a round of applause. Alastair Goodlad, foreign office minister of state, bellowed: "Congratulations." Warren bowed, Dobbie blushed.

● *A rare glimpse of prime ministerial humour at the Conservatives' Winter Ball on Monday night. As John Major stood up to address the guests, including Norman Lamont, his eyes latched on to the pot-plants decorating every table. "Ah," he said, "my Chancellor and I are very heartened to see green shoots on every table." Just the economy to go then.*

Backward advances

TWO American publishers have signed a record-breaking $2 million advance for a hitherto unknown American screenwriter. The 1,000-page manuscript, about a doctor who discovers a neo-Nazi plot in Europe, is written by Allan R. Folsom, a Californian whose career highlight to date is two episodes of *Hart to Hart*.

Cynics, however, say that *The Day After Tomorrow*, bought jointly by Little, Brown and Time Warner Books last week, has echoes of the schlock-horror film *They Saved Hitler's Brain*. The film's plot followed the efforts of a woman to find her father, a scientist who had been captured by neo-Nazis, who in turn were ordered around by Hitler's disembodied head.

The head also makes a bloody entrance in *The Day After Tomorrow*. Folsom's agent, Aaron M. Priest, resents any suggestions that the book is derived from the film: "The book is not at all like the film. Anyway, Hitler's head only appears on the very last page." Aaw, now you've spoiled the surprise.

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صكذا من الاصل

THE MAASTRICHT VICE

The prime minister should call Labour's bluff

Nine deceptively simple words stand between John Major and parliamentary defeat over the Maastricht treaty. They have been drafted not by the Tory rebels he expected to give him a rough ride, but by the Labour leadership. Amendment 27 is a wolf in sheep's clothing, a wrecking manoeuvre cloaked in idealism whose purpose is to inflict on the government a defeat so humiliating that John Major would be driven from office. Whatever Labour may say — or the Liberal Democrats, who yesterday clambered onto Labour's bandwagon — the fate of Maastricht is a purely secondary consideration.

The amendment, if carried through all its parliamentary stages, would exclude Maastricht's protocol on social policy from the European Communities (Amendment) Bill. The treaty, including its protocols, stands or falls in its entirety. Britain would thus be legally unable to ratify the Maastricht treaty because British law would fail to conform to its provisions. That prospect is luring dissident Tories into Labour's camp in unholy alliance. The government is faced with the strong probability that when the vote is taken in a few weeks' time, the amendment will carry.

Rarely, even in politics, has so devilish a trap been so draped in duplicity. Labour claims to be motivated by nothing but social idealism. The protocol in question, a last-minute concession to Mr Major at the Maastricht summit, excised the EC's social chapter from the treaty. Britain agreed instead that its 11 EC partners would press ahead separately with social legislation, outside the Treaty of Rome but using the Community's institutions, and that none of this legislation would apply to Britain.

Labour innocently claims that its amendment would, if passed, bring the benefits of the social chapter to Britain by compelling the government to forgo its "opt out" and agree to "fold the social chapter into the treaty". If its efforts to "improve" on Maastricht give Tory dissidents their chance to kill the treaty then that, Labour asserts, is Mr Major's problem. He would then have to choose between taking the blame at home and in Europe for Maastricht's failure or reopening negotiations with Britain's partners, giving way on the social chapter in order to rescue a treaty on which he has staked his reputation.

Mr Major must surely not be so naive as to fall into this trap. Even if, as Labour claims, the other 11 would be only too happy to incorporate the social chapter in the treaty, that would be no escape. Were he to take that route, he would then almost certainly face a second parliamentary defeat at the hands of his own party, where there is deep opposition to the EC's social interventionism.

His best course would be to turn the tables on Labour, making it clear that if the amendment carries, the government will not reopen negotiations. Labour's enthusiasm for Maastricht would then be put to the test. A solid pro-European case could be made for such a decision. Maastricht would be better decently buried than wearily renegotiated.

Further argument over social policy or any other aspect of Maastricht would be a damaging diversion from the far more important challenges Europe confronts. There can be no guarantee that renegotiation would be confined to the social chapter: once the taboo on touching the text was lifted, the Danes would be tempted to seek amendments. German doubts about monetary union could surface. In both Denmark and Ireland, the new text would be subject to a fresh referendum before ratification. At the end of the long day, Britain would probably fail again to ratify.

The Maastricht game has long ceased to be worth this trouble. Even before entering into force, the Maastricht treaty is looking increasingly ill-adapted to Europe's current political geography. To more and more Europeans, it appears like a wrong turning, a panic response to the "German question" which dominated the late 1980s. Its promises recede: there is little prospect of monetary union by the end of this decade, the undertaking at the treaty's core. And far from welding Europe more closely together, the "European union" it proclaims has sharply divided even such hitherto unquestioningly *communautaire* countries as France.

Mr Major has done his best to honour his Maastricht pledge. He has other pledges to honour: notably his commitment to Tory free market beliefs. The social chapter would make a mockery of these. The strongest argument for speedy ratification of Maastricht is that the way would then be open to begin a much-needed debate on the course Europe needs to chart for the next decade. That is also the best argument, should Labour's amendment stand, for leaving Maastricht in the margin-notes of history.

CUBS OF THE BEAR

Ukraine must stop using nuclear weapons as bargaining chips

Ukraine is larger than France, has Europe's largest land army, a substantial nuclear arsenal and a large chip on its shoulder. It feels neglected by the West. Today, its president, Leonid Kravchuk, will meet John Major and ask not only for increased trade and aid, but also for the respect due to a medium-sized European power.

Ukraine merits more attention, not least because it is a potential source of instability in Europe. There is a dangerous gap between Ukraine's military might — 650,000 men under arms, 176 missiles and 30 bombers — and its economic backwardness. This disparity makes Kiev an awkward partner for both west and east. Mr Kravchuk is unwilling to commit himself fully to the international arms control process, because he sees Ukraine's military strength as one of its few bargaining counters.

Ukraine is holding up the implementation of the latest START agreement. That accord, reached between Washington and Moscow at the close of the Bush administration, provided for substantial cuts in nuclear forces and is supposed to banish forever the fear of a devastating first strike. Yet Kiev has not even ratified the earlier START treaty. Nor has it signed the 1970 nuclear non-proliferation treaty. Dismantling warheads, argues Mr Kravchuk, is a costly business; as much as £800 million. The West, he says, should help shoulder these costs.

The issue goes beyond money, however. Ukraine likes having nuclear weapons; it helps to define its modern statehood. And it feels aggrieved that it has not been treated seriously within the framework of arms control talks. Washington, say the Ukrainians, has eyes only for Moscow. It is possible to understand these arguments without accepting them. The delays in START ratification are making a nonsense of arms control efforts. As long as Ukraine takes no steps towards nuclear disarmament, Russia will be reluctant to honour its promises to discard warheads.

While Ukraine and other ex-Soviet states hang on to their arsenals, it will be difficult to persuade those countries — such as India and Pakistan — on the nuclear threshold to renounce their weapons. Ukraine is starting on economic reforms and is seeking substantial Western investment. It should be made clear to Mr Kravchuk that he must first accept international arms control standards. If it wants to be part of the civilised world, Ukraine must pay the entrance fee.

VIDEO PULPIT

Saint Paul would have used television to fish for souls

In the official decade of Anglican evangelism, the ecclesiastical leap from credo to video was probably inevitable. Today the Church launches *Yours Faithfully, The Church of England*, its first corporate video cassette, which is intended to promote the Anglican witness in parishes and confirmation classes. Fourteen centuries after Gregory said , "Not Angles but angels," the English Christian mission has been captured on magnetic tape.

In spite of strong Luddite objections from some pews, a taste for modern promotional techniques has taken firm grip of the Church, as its leaders explore the new advertising freedoms granted by the 1990 Broadcasting Act. The diocese of Blackburn already has its own television studio, in the ancient Cistercian monastery of Whalley Abbey, which holds courses for the aspiring media-friendly cleric, while a sleek slogan campaign run in the diocese of Oxford two years ago prompted a 17.5 per cent increase in church attendance.

A national advertising policy has yet to be drawn up by the Church, although the diocese of Lichfield broke ranks last month with a 20-second television commercial which urged viewers to sample "The Church of England. This Sunday." Just as businesses have replaced long-term plans with "mission statements", so the Church now appears to have borrowed the idea of corporate culture and strategy. The day when Sir John Harvey-Jones is called in to arbitrate in a chapter house dispute draws ever closer.

The tension between corporatism and mendicancy has always been at the heart of Christianity. When financial acumen has strayed into venality, the faith has suffered: the sale of papal indulgences, for example, helped trigger the protestant Reformation, just as the antics of the Vatican bank have dragged modern Catholicism into disrepute. Yet many of Christianity's great organisers, such as Pope John XXII, have also been its saviours. An institution in flux always risks indignity. As it seeks to modernise itself, the Church should not surrender the Laudian respect for "the beauty of holiness" to faddishness. It is possible to learn from Mammon without worshipping him.

Video promotion is merely the latest chapter in the 2,000-year-old history of Church proselytism, which encompasses parables, Pauline epistles, stained glass windows and the crusades. The risk of shabby evangelism is no greater today than it was when John Donne wrote of Christ beating his drum to converts, or John Wesley declared that the whole world was his parish. In its exploration of this new medium and others, the Church has a chance to restore Lord Reith's belief in religious broadcasting which proclaims a mission, and to step up its battle for souls in a predominantly secular society. Faith may be harder to sell than soap powder; but the airwaves are no worse a place for the preacher than the pulpit.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Failures in economic forecasting

From Sir David Price

Sir, Simon Jenkins's well directed criticism of economists at the Treasury ("Rout of the economists", February 3) could be applied with even greater force to the whole Treasury.

During my years in the House of Commons, I watched the Treasury at work with fascination, but with increasing despair. The Treasury is staffed with brilliant people, conscientious, hard-working and incorruptible. Unfortunately, in their economic judgments they are invariably wrong.

This is a devastating combination of personal virtue and corporate failure. The reason is not difficult to identify. The staff of the Treasury are totally innocent of any personal experience of the competitive world of the marketplace upon which they have to advise.

Few of them have ever bought or sold anything for profit. They have never made anything for profit. They have never had to provide competitive services. They have never met an angry or disappointed customer. They have never been responsible for meeting the pay cheque on Friday when they are beyond their overdraft limit on Wednesday.

In short, the Treasury are never exposed to the harsh realities of the competitive market in which most of us have to earn our livings.

Until they are, they will continue to offer innocent advice to the Chancellor of the day of whatever political persuasion.

Yours truly,
DAVID PRICE
(Conservative MP for Eastleigh, 1955-92),
16 Laxford House,
Cundy Street, SW1.
February 3.

From Lord Halsbury, FRS, FEng

Sir, Like ice ages, economic recessions come and go. Maybe we cannot predict their onset but we can mitigate their effects by advance precautions against them.

What we need is the equivalent of a National Service Act empowering the government to implement an instant national recovery programme by compulsory recruitment, financed by a national recovery loan.

Currently we have 250 years' environmental neglect to repair, an out-of-date housing stock, out-of-date school, hospital and prison buildings, three million unemployed — and the civil engineering, construction and building industries at a standstill, without any ideas what to do about it.

What we need are permanently updated files waiting to cope not with this recession but the next one.

It is wrong to borrow money to pay the house-keeping. It is not wrong to borrow money to build a new house. It is right to clean up the slag heaps and coal tips of the past as an investment in posterity's future.

Yours faithfully,
HALSBURY,
House of Lords.

From Professor Colin Robinson

Sir, Simon Jenkins makes some telling points about the inadequacies of macro-economic forecasting models. It is, however, going too far to identify all economists with the small group who make excessive claims for macro-economic forecasts.

Most economic analysis is concerned with more fundamental issues: how markets work, why they sometimes fail, and why governments also fail. Such understanding is a precondition for any useful "forecasting".

Less concentration on precise macro-economic forecasting, not less economic analysis, is the remedy for the ills Mr Jenkins observes.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN ROBINSON
(Editorial Director),
The Institute of Economic Affairs,
2 Lord North Street, SW1.

From Mr D. Morris

Sir, Mr Jenkins may wish to recall that economics, as a field of study, was originally named political economy. As the leading article ("Wolf at the door") on the opposite page demonstrated with regard to Gatt, the goals are decided by politicians; the economist merely attempts to justify them.

Yours faithfully,
D. MORRIS
(Chef du Service Economique),
Comité International de la Rayonne et des Fibres Synthétiques,
Avenue E. Van Nieuwenhuyse 4,
B-1160, Brussels.
February 4.

Civil servants and their conduct

From the Chief Executive of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Sir, I very much doubt whether a new code of conduct for civil servants, as proposed by the Leader of the Opposition (leading article, January 29), would improve ethical standards of government. We would merely be faced with such ripe passages of mandarin prose as your readers have enjoyed in recent correspondence from Lord Armstrong and Sir Patrick Nairne (letter, January 7).

Is this not an area where central government could learn from local government? The latter, despite some recent excesses, remains much the more democratically accountable of the two, and its actions are much the more exposed.

Could not central government appoint "monitoring officers", as does local government, who would be independent of the permanent secretary — possibly the heads of legal services? They would consider any cases where there appeared to be sensitivities or improper conduct, and their reports would be available to the Opposition.

Secondly, the rules covering civil servants' conduct in appearing before select committees should be revised to allow them to offer impartial comment and thus be more than mere mouthpieces of their ministers.

In 14 months as a borough chief executive I have been subject to much more democratic scrutiny than I faced in more than 14 years as a civil servant.

Yours faithfully,
T. R. HORNSBY,
Chief Executive, Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames,
Guildhall,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.
February 5.

From Mr R. N. Burton

Sir, Most major government departments underwent a management review during the 1970s, developed by the Civil Service Department. The initial set piece was a lengthy session when the review team met the permanent secretary.

On such occasions, it was usual to dance a stately minuet on the subject of the aims of the department or, as an outside management consultant colleague once more earthily put it, try not to let the dog see the rabbit too soon. But invariably we soon became enmeshed in the prime personal aim of the permanent secretary, which was expressed, either implicitly or explicitly but always with a deep sense of conviction and sincerity, in words to the effect of serving the minister to the best of his ability.

I recall that the prominence given to this, making the role of operating head of a large organisation seem almost consequential, was a source of some fascination for us, though it served to underline the uniqueness and constancy of this "hinge-plate" relationship, whatever the political flavour of the time (remembering that the decade spanned both Conservative and Labour administrations).

But such a relationship can beg a deeper question. Permanent secretaries can never be our philosopher kings, but neither can they disregard their own consciences as to what they consider is in the best public interest. Delicate questions of accountability and conscience can arise.

In the case of an unresolvable conflict there would seem to be only one honourable course to pursue.

I know of only one such resignation in recent times, incidentally during a Conservative administration. Perhaps even for this we should be thankful: if ever permanent secretaries became simply ministerial nominees the question of any wider accountability would not arise in the first place.

Yours etc,
R. N. BURTON
(Assistant Secretary, CSD/Treasury, 1973-81),
56 Marine Parade,
Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

UN ability to act

From Sir Geoffrey Johnson Smith, MP for Wealden (Conservative), and others

Sir, As members of a committee of the North Atlantic Assembly, we attended meetings last week in Washington and New York in which we held discussions on the ability of the UN to plan and administer peace-keeping and peace-making missions.

Having heard something of the UN's difficulties in facing up to its increasing responsibilities, regrettably we concluded that the UN lacks a structure and the staff to make contingency plans and meet the Security Council's calls for emergency actions. Its financial resources are depleted; too many nations are in arrears with their payments; and its communications cannot cope with the increasingly complex tasks it has to discharge. The vivid comments of the former UN commander in Sarajevo, Major General Lewis MacKenzie, who is reported as saying he had difficulty in contacting key personnel in the UN after 5pm (New York time) on a Friday, was no surprise.

All these deficiencies demand urgent attention. If we fail, the UN's once promising role in keeping the peace and bringing hope to the victims of famine and war will dissolve in cynicism and despair.

Yours etc,
GEOFFREY JOHNSON SMITH,
DAVID CLARK,
FRANK COOK,
MICHAEL JOPLING,
House of Commons.
February 3.

Tests and teaching

From Mr Jim Porteous

Sir, You assert (leading article, February 4) that the opposition of English teachers in the state sector to this summer's tests in English for 14-year-olds represents a "serious dereliction of duty" which will deny thousands of children a "vital qualification". Yet you do not similarly attack "the majority of public schools" which, as you state, "have opted out of the assessments altogether".

Nor do you make it apparent how children's best interests are served when their teachers are forced to abandon work on the national curriculum to train them to cope with inane and intellectually redundant tests. Which is more desirable, for example: to work on a Shakespeare play with all children in a mixed-ability class in a stimulating and challenging manner, or to prepare just some pupils to answer questions on the text in an arid examination?

The tests do not promote good teaching or learning: resistance by English teachers to the "current fiasco" imposed upon them is a reflection of their real concern for every child's best interests.

Yours faithfully,
JIM PORTEOUS,
7 Station Road,
Ashley Down, Bristol, Avon.

Correct cooking

From Mr Paul Ranford

Sir, Not even *Differently Sized Red Lentil* goes far enough (letters, February 5 and 8).

The most politically correct publisher would surely not object, however, to *Differently Sized Amerindian Lentil*.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL RANFORD,
7 St Leonards Close,
Watlington, Oxfordshire.
February 8.

From Mr G. M. Pettingell

Sir, Shouldn't the title *Vertically Challenged Red Lentil* be truly correct?

Yours sincerely,
G. M. PETTINGELL,
32 Banyard Close,
Chessington, Surrey.
February 8.

From Mrs Jan Snook

Sir, How can "red" lentil be politically correct? Are we to allow our children to be brain-washed by the loony left?

Yours faithfully,
JAN SNOOK,
Mayfield, Linersh Wood Close,
Bramley, Guildford, Surrey.
February 8.

Labour at work

From Mr Simon Haskel and Sir Sigmund Sternberg

Sir, Your leading article, "In hard labour" (February 3), accuses the Labour party of complacency and stagnation. It is not clear, however, from your line of argument what you think it should be doing.

Revise and renew its policy? Even before John Smith's major speech at the weekend (report, February 8), which encapsulates what he and other Labour leaders have been saying for some time, important steps have been made to do just this, including a new study under Sir Gordon Borrie's chairmanship (report, December 18, 1992) to provide a Beveridge-style report on social policy issues.

Consider anew the question of electoral reform? A national executive working party chaired by Lord Plant is doing just that, and will be reporting shortly.

Reform its own constitution? Another NEC working group is examining the question of the trade union link, while a Fabian committee chaired by Lord Archer of Sandwell is shortly to make recommendations on the whole Labour party rule book.

Or are you just saying that the Labour leadership should attack the government more vociferously? The fact is that it has criticised ministers with great cogency, and it is scarcely its own fault if such points do not always get adequately reported.

Yours faithfully,
SIMON HASKEL (Chairman),
S. STERNBERG
(Deputy Chairman),
Labour Finance & Industry Group,
Star House,
104 Grafton Road, NW5.
February 8.

Maastricht amendment

From Mr Patrick Robertson

Sir, The amendment tabled by John Smith (no 27) on which Tory opponents of Maastricht may decide to "join forces with Labour" does not, as your leading article, "A good dumping" (February 8), suggested, bring Britain "back into the treaty's social chapter".

The social provisions in question are not contained in any chapter of the treaty itself, as your interview with the Leader of the Opposition (report, February 9) makes clear. They are contained in an agreement separate from the Maastricht treaty to which the UK is not a party. The protocol on social policy simply gives the UK's permission to the other 11 states to use the common Community institutions for administering their separate social agreement. If carried, the Labour amendment would remove this protocol.

The arrangement in the protocol carries a risk of cross-infection of principles, practices and attitudes from the social charter of the other 11 into the implementation of the social provisions of the Treaty of Rome, to which the UK is a party. By cutting the institutional link between Maastricht and the social policy of the other 11, Mr Smith's amendment further distances the UK from the social charter. Far from being "cynical and destructive", as your leader put it, this amendment should be supported on principle by all Conservatives concerned about the social charter.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ROBERTSON
(Founding Secretary,
The Bruges Group),
As from: 36 Denbigh Street, SW1.
February 9.

The Queen's duties

From Mr P. M. Cooper

Sir, Bob Cryer, MP, has called for the Queen to take shorter holidays and to provide better value for money (report, later editions, February 8). Surely the Queen continues to receive state papers requiring her attention wherever she is in residence and the court circular shows that Sandringham does not represent a complete break from public engagements.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL COOPER,
Flat F44, Du Cane Court,
Balham High Road, SW17.

Sovereign remedies

From Mrs M. C. Madge

Sir, The many letters published on February 6 on readers' experiences with laxatives and purgatives only goes to reaffirm this nation's obsession with its bowels.

Once, when nursing a heart-attack victim in intensive care, my sister was met with his first conscious words: "I haven't opened my bowels today."

Yours faithfully,
M. MADGE,
Drummermire, Troutbeck,
Windermere, Cumbria.

From Sir Vivian Fuchs, FRS

Sir, I recall the Burroughs Wellcome laxative called Livingstone Rouser which I carried in my 1930 African travels — a compound of quinine and rhubarb and certainly effective.

Yours faithfully,
VIVIAN FUCHS,
106 Barton Road, Cambridge.

From Mr M. Gordon

Sir, As a child I was given laxative lozenges called "Lixen". They were very cost-effective, and their only snag was that they tasted so pleasant that my parents kept them locked up.

Yours sincerely,
M. GORDON,
6 Lansdowne Road,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire.

Churches under fire

From the Bishop of Bristol and Mrs Maryon Jägers

Sir, On January 18 Ruth Gledhill reported on an article, "The Gospel according to Marx", in the February *Reader's Digest*, which is critical of the World Council of Churches.

That article, now widely available, yet again repeats old charges about KGB infiltration and the "Programme to Combat Racism", despite the WCC's full and clear responses.

The *Reader's Digest* article also quotes criticisms made more than 18 months ago by certain members of the Church of England delegation to the WCC Canberra assembly of 1991, which we both attended. Since then these criticisms have been taken seriously and the council has been restructured.

The charges of pagan rites, to which Ms Gledhill's report particularly refers, need to be put into context. The smoke ceremony at the opening act of worship was clearly explained by the Australian Anglican bishop, Arthur Malcolm, himself an aborigine, as "a traditional cleansing process for aboriginal people", clearly linked in aboriginal culture with the Christian rite of purification.

At a meeting of the central committee in August 1992 the moderator and the general secretary of the WCC emphasised that the visible unity of the churches remains the council's primary aim. What has happened since Canberra argues, we believe, for a greater involvement in the WCC rather than any withdrawal of support. This was indeed the conclusion of many speakers at the General Synod in July 1991.

Yours,
BARRY BRISTOL,
MARYON JÄGERS,
Bishop's House,
Clifton Hill, Bristol, Avon.

Business letters, page 23

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 9: His Excellency Mr Ashworth Elwin was received in audience by The Queen and presented his Letters of Commission upon his appointment as High Commissioner for Dominica in London.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the High Commission: Mr Steven Larocque (Attaché).

Mrs Elwin was also received by Her Majesty.

Sir David Gillmore (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign And Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

General Sir John Waters was received by The Queen upon relinquishing his appointment as Commander-in-Chief United Kingdom Land Forces.

Her Majesty held a Council at 12.40pm.

There were present: The Rt Hon Antony Newton, MP (Lord President), the Rt Hon John MacGregor, MP (Secretary of State for Transport), the Rt Hon Tristan Garel-Jones, MP (Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office) and the Rt Hon Timothy Sainsbury, MP (Minister of State, Department of Trade and Industry).

The Baroness Blatch, Sir Percy Cradock, Sir Peter Emery, MP, Sir Peter Hordern, MP, and Sir John Wheeler, MP were sworn in as Members of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

Mr Nigel Nicholls was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Rt Hon Antony Newton, MP had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

The Rt Hon John Major, MP (Prime Minister and First Lord of the Treasury) had an audience of The Queen this evening.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor, today visited Cambridge University and was received by Sir David Williams (Vice-Chancellor).

Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire (Mr James Crowden) was present.

Wing Commander Christopher Moran, RAF, was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Permanent Master, Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, this evening presided at a Meeting of the Court to admit The Duke of York as a Freeman of the Company followed by a Livery Dinner, Ironmongers' Hall, London EC2.

Mr Brian McGrath and Captain Neil Blair, RN, were in attendance.

By command of The Queen the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) called upon the Governor-General of the Solomon Islands and Lady Lepping at West Side, London SW19, today in order to welcome Their Excellencies upon their Arrival in this country on behalf of Her Majesty.

By command of The Queen the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, this evening upon the Arrival of The President of Ukraine and Mrs Kravchuk and welcomed Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 9: The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, The Staffordshire Regiment, this morning visited the Regimental Headquarters and Museum and was received by Colonel F. Walter James (Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire).

His Royal Highness this afternoon attended a book launch of *Rats Tale*, Guildhall, Lichfield.

Captain Rupert Maitland-Titterton was in attendance.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 9: The Princess Royal, Patron, National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, this morning opened the new bureau extension, 10 Crown Street, Brentwood, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Essex (the Lord Braybrooke).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Butler Trust, afterwards visited HM Prison Chelmsford.

The Princess Royal, Patron, National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux, this afternoon opened the extended bureau premises, Civic Suite, Hockley Road, Rayleigh, and was received by Mr John Norris (Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Essex).

Her Royal Highness, President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, later visited Cavendish Silks, Essex Designs, Unit 38, Grainger Industrial Estate, Southend-on-Sea.

Mrs William Nunneley was in attendance.

The Princess Royal, President, the Rural Housing Trust, this evening gave a Reception at Buckingham Palace for the launch of the John Arlott Memorial Trust in conjunction with the National Playing Fields Association.

Her Royal Highness, Patron, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence, RN, later attended a Dinner given by HFT Development Trust.

CLARENCE HOUSE
February 9: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, President Emerita, this afternoon visited the Royal College of Music.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston and Sir Alastair Aird were in attendance.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston has succeeded the Lady Elizabeth Basset as Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 9: The Prince of Wales, President, Business in the Community, this morning met business leaders and representatives of inner city development organisations at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron, International Tree Foundation, afterwards attended a tree planting ceremony to mark the Fortieth Anniversary of The Queen's Accession, Green Park, London SW1.

Commander Robert Fraser, RN, was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales attended a Luncheon with members of the American business community given by the Ambassador to the United States of America (His Excellency the Hon Raymond Seitz), Winfield House, Regent's Park, London NW1.

Mr Peter Westmacott was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, President elect, this afternoon attended a Concert to mark the adoption of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother as President Emerita of the Royal College of Music, Prince Consort Road, South Kensington, London SW7.

Miss Belinda Harley was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales later received the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Minister for Overseas Development (the Rt Hon Baroness Chalker of Wallasey) at St James's Palace.

His Royal Highness this evening gave a Reception on behalf of the Fund to Acquire the Royal Commonwealth Society Library for the Nation at St James's Palace.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 9: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Huntington's Disease Association, this morning visited the charity's headquarters, 108 Battersea High Street, London SW11.

Captain Edward Musto, RM, was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE,
ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 9: The Duchess of Kent this morning visited the Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton, Yeovil, Somerset and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Somerset (Colonel Walter Luttrell).

Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Chancellor, this evening hosted a retirement dinner for Sir David Nicolson, Pro Chancellor and Mr Nigel Robson, Treasurer of the University of Surrey at Boodle's, 28 St James's Street, London SW1.

Commander Roger Walker, RN, was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00: and, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will dine with the Canadian High Commissioner and Mrs Eaton at 3 Grosvenor Square at 8.00.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as President of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, will visit the Community Sports Leaders Award Scheme action day at the John Orwell Sports Centre, Tench Street E1, at 2.30.

The Princess of Wales will attend the McDonald's Child of Achievement awards at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre at 11.00.

The Duke of Kent, as Vice Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, will visit Triumph Motorcycles, Jacknell Road, Hinckley, at 10.25: will visit PAL International, Sandhurst Street, Oadby, at 11.55: will visit the British United Shoe Machinery, Ross Walk, Belgrave, at 1.00: and will visit Rearsby Automotive, Gaddesby Lane, Rearsby, at 3.00.

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Michael Braithwaite, Vicar, Lorton and Loweswater w Buttermere: to be also Leader of the newly formed Rural Life and Agriculture Team (Carlisle).

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Charles Lamb, essayist, London, 1775; Boris Pasternak, poet and novelist, Moscow, 1890; Harold Macmillan, 1st Earl of Stockton, prime minister 1957-63, London, 1894; Bertolt Brecht, dramatist and theatre director, Augsburg, Germany, 1898; Joyce Grenfell, actress and broadcaster, London, 1910.

DEATHS: Alexander Pushkin, writer, 1837; Francis Danby, painter, Exmouth, 1861; Joseph Lister, 1st Baron Lister, surgeon and pioneer of antiseptic surgery, Walmer, Kent, 1912; Wilhelm Konrad von Röntgen, discoverer of X-rays, Munich, 1923.



Family tree: the Prince of Wales brandishes his spade after planting the first in a new copse of lime trees in Green Park, London, yesterday to mark the Queen's fortieth year on the throne. The ceremony was watched by a hundred-strong crowd of volunteers with the International Tree Foundation, one of whom presented him with a wallflower for his butterfly garden.

Memorial service

Major-General Sir Ralph Hone

A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Major-General Sir Ralph Hone was held on Monday at the Grand Priory Church, St John's Square, Clerkenwell Road. Canon Richard Tydeman, Chaplain of the Order of St John and Lieutenant Grand Commander of the Supreme Council 33°, officiated, assisted by the Rev His Honour Christopher Lea.

Mrs Deirdre Clague, daughter, read from *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran. Lord Grey of Naunton, Major-General Corran Purdon, Honorary Colonel of the London Irish Rifles, and Mr Harold Devereux Still, Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council 33°, read the lessons.

Sir Stephen Brown, President of the Family Division, gave an address. Sir Ralph's banner as Bailiff Grand Cross of the Order was borne in procession to the altar by Mr Richard Hone, son, and pipes of the London Irish Rifles and fanfare trumpeters of the Coldstream Guards also took part. Among others present were:

Mr and Mrs Desmond Hone (son and daughter-in-law), Mrs Richard Hone (daughter-in-law), Mr and Mrs Crispin Tollast, Mr and Mrs Matthew Eden, Mr and Mrs Christopher Ellwood, Mr and Mrs David Marrynsid, Mrs Richard Hellebon (grandchildren), Beatrix and Augustine Eden and Peter Hellebon (great-grandchildren).

Patricia Countess of Courtown, Lord Neidpath, Lady Grey of Naunton, Lord Westbury, Lady Brown, Lady Felicity McIndoe, Sylvia Lady Wilkinson, Sir James Henry, Sir Gawain Bell, Sir James and Lady Stubbs, Sir Jack Boles, Lord Justice and Lady Beldam, Sir Alexander Waddell, Sir Stephen and Lady Miller, Mr Justice Tucker, Sir Maurice and Lady Dorman, His Honour Alan Upfriend, Mrs Christopher Lea, Judge and Mrs Roger Cox, Major-General Humphrey Bredin, Major-General Edward Fursdon, Colonel and Mrs Ian Wilson, Colonel Basil Irwin, Colonel and Mrs E Remington-Hobbs, Mr John Slater, QC, and Mrs Slater, Mr R F Wilson, QC, Mr Anthony Machin, QC, Mr Julian Jeffs, QC, Mr D Eady, QC, Mr Anthony Walton, QC, Mr Michael Spencer, QC, Mr Anthony Boswood, QC.

Commander Michael Higham (grand secretary, United Grand Lodge of England), Mr J A Mackenzie (master, in Deo Fidemus Lodge 3951) with Mr Donald Osborne (secretary, In Deo Fidemus Lodge, and president, OVA); Professor Anthony Mellows (chancellor, Order of St John) and Mrs Mellows, Datuk Peter Yew (representing the Bishop of Sabah, and the District Grand Master, Eastern Archipelago) and Mrs Yew, Mr David Rogers (London Irish Rifles Lodge), Major James MacLeod (band president, London Irish Rifles), Major A P Laroche (London Irish Rifles Officers Club), Major John Haytom, Mr Alan Niekirk and Mr John Richards.

Calls to the Bar

Hilary Term 1993

Inner Temple
J E Green; Ablud Karate Ralhra; I C Logan; E A K Bannerman; K Igbinadolor; D S Panesar; J Sheridan; R D Hopkins; P Shukla; D A Callow; M D Broad; J P Horan; J A E Webster; A M Sylvester; H K Spencer; N E Allen, N Kel-Cheong Chan; R C R Ticehurst; A S Dymond; A Rakovic; P A Richardson; T E Clark; M G Kendal; H A Drayton; E R McDonald; E G Venner; M K Garside; A J Maton; J V Norris.
In absence: G R Bailey.

Middle Temple
M E Kazantzis; M I Litvin; D C Brown; T R Elliott; R F-R Sheikh; S D Laughton; Kim Hong Saw; B W Jones; S D Grons; S J Bradford; H P Brandt; M K Kaler; N C Galloway; C C R Luuhl; W G Brown; D Blumenthal; R Garmon-Jones; G Lai Hin Ooi; G M Reid; C P Milligan; R P Cunningham; S J Tiruchelvarayan; E Adamidou; N Dutta; S E McCormack; A W Baars; D E Flood; S H Macdonald; F Doha; F Rashid; J A Hewitt; V G Balakrishnan; S A J Levene; P Cargill-Thompson; C M Corcoran; P L Carswell.

Gray's Inn
A V Lowe; M R Rooney; P R Hogben; A J Purvis; A O Adesina; N D A Wray; M R Ryan; R S Watson; S Boon Yeow Sie; C W Furness; C G Fox; F M Spencer; R M Kullar; R Reinam; M D Hurd; M G Highman; E Christofides; G Palmer; T S Storey; J E Pinkham; G Buttimore; N S Wadsworth; S J Thomas; P S Nock; M J Tregilgas-Davey; F S Harding; R Amiruftabi; Wei Ming A Yeong; M A Qazi; S T Kenlon; S S Kassam; D J H Langwallner; S J Illingworth; J S Storrs-Fox; J B Crosland; N P Rouse; E L Carter; A J O'Toole; M J Teeman; N S Harris; Z G M Nalpon.

Lincoln's Inn
Dr P M Smith; A J Rush; H Z-S Zul-Kifile; L C Simpson; R C Sivapiragasam; V C Meadeb; M M Foster; S J Elliston; C N Godfrey; A L Whyte; K M Mkandla; Lim Yong Meng; C E M Pegus; T d'A Cleeve; M Lee Mei; B J Patel; A H Frith; M Figueroa-Terry; P J F Barrett; Ling Yoke Hool; A V Wilson; J Koo; A P Roberts; R K Rai; K Calderon; S Singh; M A K Saif; R Yeo; C A Barrow; Teo Kim Soon; B S Williamson; A J Shipwright.

Birthdays today

Mr Larry Adler, mouth organist, 79; Field Marshal Sir Nigel Bagnall, 66; Sir Michael Bishop, chairman, British Midland Airways, 51; Mr Danny Blanchflower, footballer, 67; Miss Olwyn Bowey, painter, 57; Dr Alexander Comfort, physician, poet and novelist, 73; Professor J. Heslop-Harrison, botanist, 73; Mr Peter Middleton, chief executive officer, Lloyd's, 53; Lord Milne, 84; Mr Greg Norman, golfer, 38; Lord Orr-Ewing, 81; Group Captain Sir Gordon Pirie, 75; Miss Leontyne Price, soprano, 66; Sir Idwal Pugh, former Ombudsman, 75; Miss Gail Rebuck, chairman and chief executive, Random House, 41; Air Marshal Sir William Richardson, 61; Lord Justice Rose, 56; Mr Mark Spitz, swimmer, 43.

New Hall School, Chelmsford

The following Scholarships and awards have been made for the next academic year, beginning in September 1993.

Diocesan Scholarship: Beverley Wong, St Aidan's RC Primary School, Ilford.
The Susan Hawley Scholarships
Catholic Independent Schools Entrance Scholarship: Nence Johnstone, St Philips Priory School, Chelmsford.
Open Entrance Scholarship: Laura Walker, St Cedd's School, Chelmsford.
Special Award for all-round giftedness: Jane Gilbert, Chiswick and Bedford Park School, London.
Other Special Awards for good all-round ability: Tamsin Castley, St Cedd's School Chelmsford; Emma Savill, FKS, Felsted; Catherine Vigrass, Heathcote School, Danbury.
Armed Forces Special Award: Helen Thomas, Rookesbury Park School, Wickham; Tessa Whitehouse, Rydes Hill Prep School, Guildford.
Music Scholarship: Sarah-Elizabeth Fairfax, Woodborough Woods Foundation School, Nottingham.

New Hall School celebrates 350 years of Foundation this year and some Scholarships have been inaugurated to commemorate this anniversary.

Latest wills

Recent estates include (net, before tax paid):

Mr Joseph Noad **Rogers**, of Trowbridge, Wilts........£939,554.
Mr Pavittar Singh **Sanghera**, of Worcester........£577,746.
Mrs Lizzie May **Tugwood**, of London N14........£624,587.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.H.J. Bates and Miss M.J. Nerurkar
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs Patrick Bates, of Burton Joyce, Nottingham, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Nerurkar, of Menston, West Yorkshire.

Mr W.W. Burrell and Miss C.A. Shelmerdine
The engagement is announced between William, elder son of Mr and Mrs Mark Burrell, of Shipley, West Sussex, and Celia, only daughter of the late Mr Peter Shelmerdine and of Mrs Peter Shelmerdine, of Toorak, Melbourne, Australia.

Mr G.P. Cullens and Miss T.A. Reilly
The engagement is announced between Graeme Peter, eldest son of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs D.K. Cullens, of Petts Wood, Kent, and Tracey Anne, third daughter of Mr and Mrs P. Reilly, of Brockley, London.

Mr R.E. Howard and Miss A.A. Higgins
The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr Christopher Howard, of Nocton Rise, Lincoln, and Mrs Bridget Bateson, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire, and Alexandra, daughter of Mr Brian Higgins, of Titchfield, Hampshire, and Mrs Anne Higgins, of Hartfield, East Sussex.

Mr P.W. Johnston and Miss A.M. Mason
The engagement is announced between Philip, only son of Lieutenant General Sir Maurice and Lady Johnston, of Devizes, Wiltshire, and Amanda, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Mason, of Wightwick, Wolverhampton, West Midlands.

Mr C.C. Lloyd and Miss K.A. Sedman
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of the late Mr Geoffrey Lloyd and of Mrs Barbara Lloyd, of Woolstone, Oxfordshire, and Kate, daughter of Mr Keith Sedman, of London and the late Mrs Diane Sedman.

Mr T.N. Richardson and Miss H.E. Shipsey
The engagement is announced between Timothy Noel Richardson, BDS, younger son of Mr and Mrs Peter Richardson, of Solihull, West Midlands, and Honor Elizabeth Shipsey, BDS, youngest daughter of Drs Maurice and Margaret Shipsey, of Sanderstead, Surrey.

Mr J.H. Tomlin and Miss E.J. White
The engagement is announced between Julian, son of Mr and Mrs Roger Tomlin, of Harpenden, Herfordshire, and Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Mr Derek White and of Mrs P.J. Jackson, of Nether Hall, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk.

Dinners

European-Atlantic Group
The French Ambassador was the guest of honour at a dinner of the European-Atlantic Group held last night at St Ermin's Hotel.

Lord Rippon of Hexham, QC, president, was in the chair and the other speakers were Sir Reginald Hibbert, Chairman of the Franco-British Society, and Sir John Leahy, Chairman of the Franco-British Council.

Electrical Contractors' Association
Mr Jim Dougal, President of The Electrical Contractors' Association, presided at the annual dinner held last night at Grosvenor House. Sir Michael Latham was principal guest and speaker. Among the people present were Office Bearers from the Leading Trade Associations, Confederations and Federations, EETPU, the permanent Civil Service, Members of Parliament and leading figures and company representatives from the electrical industry.

Lecture

Foundation for Science and Technology
The Lord Butterworth, CBE, was in the chair at a lecture and dinner discussion held at the Royal Society last night. The Right Hon Michael Heseltine, MP, Sir William Barlow and Dr Geoff Robinson spoke on: "Innovation in British Industry. What Role Science and Technology". The evening was sponsored by AIRTO, the Association of Independent Research and Technology Organisations. Others present included:

Lord Beloff, the Earl of Bessborough, Lord Butterfield, Lady Butterworth, Viscount Caldecote, Lord Dainton, Lord Flowers, Lord Shackleton, the Earl of Shannon, Sir Geoffrey Allen, Sir Hermann Bondi, Sir Colin Chandler, Professor Sir Sam Edwards, Sir John Fairclough, Sir Anthony Gill, Sir Douglas Hague, Professor Sir Ronald Oxburgh, Sir David Phillips, Sir Mark Richmond, Sir Denis Rooke, Dr Jeremy Bray, MP, Mr Tam Dalyell, MP, Mr Edward Leigh, MP, Dr Richard J Haas, Mr Oscar Roith, Dr Bruce Smith and Dr P T Warren.

Service dinners

Royal Navy Club of 1765-85
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, Secretary of State for Defence, and Admiral Sir Julian Oswald, First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff, were the principal guests at a dinner given by the Royal Navy Club of 1765 and 1785 yesterday at the Naval and Military Club, Piccadilly, to celebrate Founders' Day and to entertain the Admiralty Board. Admiral Sir Jeremy Black presided.

Oxford University Air Squadron
Squadron Leader J.D. Smithson, Commanding Officer of the Oxford University Air Squadron, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the squadron's headquarters, Manor Road. Miss M.E. Llewellyn-Smith, Principal of St Hilda's College, Oxford, and Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon, Chief of the Air Staff were the guests of honour.

Luncheon

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at City Hall in honour of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London. Among those present were:

Lord and Lady Wakeham, Lord and Lady Wolfson, Sir Alcon and Lady Copisarow, Sir Paul and Lady Osmond, Admiral of the Fleet Sir William and Lady Staveley, Air Vice-Marshal Michael Dicken, Mr Anthony and Dr Rosa Letts, Canon and Mrs Colin Semper and Mr and Mrs David Summerscale.

Appointments

Geoffrey Harris, QC, to be a Circuit Judge, assigned to the Midland and Oxford circuit.

Kate Markus and George Pulman, QC, to be members of the Legal Aid Board.

Bryan Magee to be a member of the Arts Council.

David James to be National Director of the National Association of Boys' Clubs.

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Your beauty made you arrogant: you debased your wisdom to enhance your splendour. I flung you to the ground, I left you exposed to the gaze of kings.
Ezekiel 28:17 (REB)

BIRTHS

BROOKS - On February 7th, to Paul and Gillian (née Ralph), a wonderful son, Benjamin Henry Patrick, a brother for Samuel.

HALSEY - On February 1st, in Santa Monica, to Ann (née Sutcliffe) and Keith, a daughter, Kitty Sybilla, a sister to George.

HASELHURST - On February 4th, to Sabine (née Reike) and Richard, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, a daughter, Jamie Elisabeth. A delight for grandmothers Alice and Ursula and an accomplice for Benjamin.

JACKSON - On 7th February, to Helena and Sean, a son, Patrick, a brother to Christopher and Tristan.

MACKINNON - On February 9th, to Veronica (née Mitcalfe) and Robert, a daughter, Lucy.

McDANELL - To Karin and Philip, a lovely daughter, Lisa, born 25th January. With thanks to all at Queen Charlotte's.

McNEICE - On February 5th, to Steve and Jayne, a daughter, Keri Anne.

PREST - On February 3rd, at Queen Charlotte's, to Karin (née Rauh) and Hedley, a son, Alex Carl Edward.

ROBSON - On January 27th in Hong Kong, to Josephine (née Heard) and Hugo, two daughters, Helena and Katharine.

VAN DYCK - On February 3rd, in Stafford, to Louise (née Bourge) and Mark, a son, George Alexander.

WALSOM - On February 6th, to Susan (née Pitcairn) and Roger, a daughter, Louise Clare, a sister for Patrick.

MARRIAGES

DICKSON:MACKINTOSH - At the Cathedral Church of St Andrew's, Inverness, on January 30th 1993, Bridget, youngest daughter of The Mackintosh and Celia Mackintosh of Mackintosh, Moy Hall, Tomatin, to Paul, younger son of William and May Dickson, Edinburgh.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BURR:DISNEY - On February 10th 1943, at St Margaret's, Ipswich, Ford to Lilian. Love from all the family.

DEATHS

BRANT - Eric Dunbar. Dear husband of Marjorie. On 3rd February, at Morges, Switzerland, aged 87. Suddenly and peacefully.

BRISCOE - On February 7th 1993, suddenly but peacefully, Sir John Leigh Charlton Briscoe, Bt, DFC, in his 82nd year. Much loved husband of Teresa, beloved father of James and Edward, grandfather of Fay and Guy. Funeral Service at Stoke Poges Church, Monday February 15th 1993 at 1.45pm, followed by cremation at Slough Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations to The RAF Benevolent Fund. Enquiries to E. Sargeant & Son (0753) 520081.

BROWN - On Sunday 7th February, passed away peacefully in Southampton General Hospital, Hants., Winifred (Peggy). Beloved widow of George R B Brown, OBE, and her loving sister-in-law, Doris, who will be sadly missed by her many friends. Funeral Service will be held on Wednesday 17th February at Southampton Crematorium, West Chapel at 2.15 pm. Donations, if desired, to the Fire Services Benevolent Fund may be sent to A.H. Cheater, 122 The Hundred, Romsey, Hants.

CLARK - On February 6th 1993, peacefully at home in London, Richard Lawrence, aged 38 years. Younger son of Bill and Ruth Clark. Funeral private. Memorial Service at Chelsea Old Church, Saturday 27th February at 12 noon. Donations to Chelsea and Westminster Hospital c/o J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, Kensington W8 6LA.

CLARKE - On 6th February 1993 following a road accident, Andrew Philip, aged 22 years, dearly loved eldest son of David and Alison, brother of Jonathan and Edward. Funeral private. Service of Thanksgiving at Birkenhead School Chapel on Friday 26th February at 3.30 pm, for all who loved him.

DEATHS

CRAWSHAY - Suddenly on February 7th, in Bath, Codrington Francis, beloved husband of Jill. Funeral Friday February 12th at St John's R.C. Church, South Parade, Bath at 10 am.

FRAENKEL - Dr. Charlotte Elisabeth. On February 4th, peacefully at the Lady Nuffield Home, Oxford, after a short illness, aged 85. For many years head of the Foreign Languages Department at Bedford High School. Funeral Service, St Michael's Church, Summertown, Oxford, on Thursday 11th February at 2pm, followed by cremation (family only). Cut flowers to A.W. Bruce Ltd., 29 Rogers Street, Summertown, Oxford.

FRASER - Peacefully on February 9th 1993, Angela Fraser (Burnet-Craigie) of Linton, Linton House, Sauchen, Aberdeenshire, dearly loved wife of James. Thanksgiving Service in Rubislaw Parish Church, Aberdeen, on Friday February 12th at 12 noon and at Linton House Chapel, Sauchen at 1.30 pm, to which all friends are respectfully invited. Interment followed privately at Cluny Churchyard.

GIBB - On 6th February, suddenly at home in Jordans, Charles, much loved husband of Angela and of the late Nancy, father of David, Lindsay and Rosanne and grandfather. Private funeral. No flowers or letters please. Donations, if desired, to Coombe Trust Fund, 68 Manor Lane, London SE13.

GRENFELL - On February 6th 1993, peacefully at St Christopher's Hospice, Irene Lilian, widow of Pascoe, second Baron Grenfell, beloved mother of Aline, stepmother of Caroline and Julian, sister of Phyllis Paine. Funeral Service at St George's Church, Woolstone Road, Forest Hill, SE23, on Friday 19th February at 12 noon, followed by committal at Beckenham Crematorium. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Christopher's Hospice or Invalid Childrens Aid Nationwide, c/o Kellaways Funeral Service, 104 Lordship Lane, East Dulwich, SE22 8HF, tel: (081) 693-2898.

DEATHS

HARRIS - On February 7th in hospital, Francis Code Gordon, aged 79 years. A dearly loved husband of the late Elizabeth Cicely, a dear and devoted father, father-in-law and grandad. Service at Methodist Chapel, Stannington, Sheffield, on Friday February 12th at 1pm, followed by private cremation, City Road, at 2.15pm. Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu if desired to NSPCC.

HART - On February 4th at The College of St Barnabas, Lingfield, Surrey, Dr. Arthur Tindal Hart D.D. (Priest) aged 84, husband of the late Vera. Funeral at 4.15 pm Thursday February 11th at The Surrey and Sussex Crematorium, Worth, near Crawley.

HEAP - On February 6th 1993, peacefully in Taunton, Sam Heap, husband of Audrey, father of John and Jennifer. Formerly with Huddersfield Borough Engineers Department, PWD Ghana, Huddersfield Polytechnic and with ILO in Bangkok, Manila and Geneva. Sadly missed and remembered always. Funeral Monday February 15th at Pitminster Parish Church, Pitminster, Taunton at 11 am. Enquiries to Messrs E. White & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors tel: (0823) 272183.

HOLLINGS - Peacefully on February 9th, Harold Hollings O.B.E. D.Sc., aged 100 years, of Goathland, North Yorkshire. Funeral Service to take place at St Mary's Church, Goathland, on Saturday February 13th at 2 pm.

JAQUES - Peacefully in hospital on February 2nd 1993, Juliette Winifred. Cremation to take place at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium on Friday February 12th at 3.15 pm. Donations if desired to British Heart Foundation. All enquiries to B.C. Baker and Son, Funeral Directors (0883) 343219.

KING - On February 9th, peacefully at Bernards Gate Nursing Home, Donald Plimsoll King M.A., M.D., aged 83, Consultant Pathologist Emeritus to the Chichester Group of Hospitals, beloved husband of the late Pamela Joy, father of Donald, Robert and Penelope, grandfather and great-grandfather. Cremation at Chichester Crematorium on Thursday February 18th at 2 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Wilfrid's Hospice, Chichester.

DEATHS

KNIGHT - On February 6th 1993, Juanita of Kensington, London, aged 93. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium, Kew Meadow Path, Richmond, on Monday 15th February at midday.

PERRY - Dr. Cyril Edward died on 6th February 1993 on the Isle of Wight, aged 87. After a life of service to others, he sadly suffered several years of pain and disablement.

RAYBONE - On February 7th, peacefully in Hawkhurst with her family, Moira Georgina Meikle, of Ickleton, aged 80. Much loved wife of the late Frank, mother of Hugh and Sara, grandmother of Sophie and Felicity Raybone and Lucy, Charlotte, Georgie, Sam and William Attwood. Cremation on Friday February 12th, 11am in Tunbridge Wells, followed by a Memorial Service to be held on Thursday February 18th, 2pm at St Mary Magdalene Church, Ickleton, Cambridge. Donations for St Mary Magdalene Church c/o Mrs Hilary Rule, 5 Mill Lane, Ickleton, Cambridge CB10 1SW. Flowers to Skeotes Funeral Directors, 46 Moorfield Road, Duxford, Cambridge.

TRECHMANN - Guy, died unexpectedly at home on Thursday 4th February 1993. A private cremation is to take place and a memorial service at Aisholt Church, near Bridgwater, on 20th February at 10.30 am. No flowers. Any donations for Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation may be left at the Church or sent to Grandfield & Son, Funeral Directors, Nether Stowey, Bridgwater, Somerset.

TROUTON - On February 7th, Maude (Billie) aged 90. Much loved by Tulia and John and by her grandchildren Nina, Gilly and Annabel.

WALTER - On February 7th 1993, suddenly at home, Hugh Edmund Cunliffe Walter M.B.E. R.A. (Retd). Cremation private. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to R.N.L.I. to E.B. Button and Sons, 24 St Johns Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

WHITTAKER - Ben died at West Suffolk Hospital on 8th February 1993 after a short illness. The husband of the late Jacinth Buxton Whittaker, he leaves three sons Edward, Nigel and Clive. Funeral 12 noon Friday February 12th, Bury St Edmunds Crematorium. No flowers. Donations to Friends of West Suffolk Hospital.

DEATHS

WOODCOCK (A.K.A. Wynton) - On February 4th 1993, peacefully in Worthing, Lily Brenda aged 81 years, will be sadly missed. Funeral at Worthing Crematorium at 11 am on Monday February 15th. All enquiries c/o H.D. Tribe Ltd., 130 Broadwater Road, Worthing tel: (0903) 234516.

WYNTON - See Woodcock.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

DOBSON - Michael. On Wednesday 17th February 11.30 am at St Sepulchre without Newgate (opposite Old Bailey).

FULLER - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Jill will be held on Tuesday 9th March at 12 noon at St Paul's, Wilton Place, Knightsbridge. All friends welcome.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

PILCHER - John 16.v.12 - 10.ii.90 RIP. In happy memory - Delia.

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OBITUARIES

THE MUFTI OF JERUSALEM

Saad a-Din el-Alami, Mufti of Jerusalem, died on February 6 aged 82. He was born in Jerusalem.

SAAD a-Din el-Alami was appointed by Jordan in 1953 as Mufti of Jerusalem, the senior Islamic clergyman in the holy city. From 1982 he was also head of the Higher Islamic Council, the body responsible for religious affairs of all Muslims in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem.

The el-Alami family roots go back to Morocco but its connections to Jerusalem began more than 800 years ago with the arrival of Hikari el-Alami in the Holy Land. He was a commander in the army of Salah-a-Din (Saladin, Richard the Lion Heart's great adversary) which came to expel the crusader infidel from the country in 1187. The Muslim warrior eventually settled in Jerusalem.

Saad a-Din el-Alami was born in East Jerusalem from where he went to the Al-Azhar University in Cairo to pursue Muslim studies. After graduating he returned to Jerusalem in 1932 and became a religious teacher at Al-Aksa.

In 1937, the year he became clerk to the Sharia religious court in Jerusalem, el-Alami married Assma, a daughter of the Nusseibah family which was equally prestigious in the city. Soon after he was appointed a Kadi or court judge, first in Acre, then Tiberias and afterwards Nazareth.

In 1948 Nazareth was captured by the Haganah, the fledgling Jewish army fighting to establish the state of Israel, and el-Alami decided to move with his family to Jordan. He spent time in Irbid and Amman until 1951 when he was sent to be Kadi of the courts in Nablus and Ramallah on the West Bank, which at the time was still under Jordanian control. Two years later he was appointed Mufti of Jerusalem by the Jordanian Wakf which administered the extensive Muslim religious properties in the city and its environs.

Following the Six Day war of 1967, in which the Israelis took control of East Jerusalem and the West Bank, Saad a-Din el-Alami played a role in the establishment of the Muslim High Council, which was linked to the Jordanian ministry of religious affairs in Amman and administered Muslim affairs in East Jerusalem and the West Bank. el-Alami was later appointed "Judge of Judges" (and as such the leading Muslim legal authority for the region), head of the Muslim Waqf and, in 1982, head of the Muslim High Council which he had helped to found.

El-Alami's background made him a symbol of authority. He could sense the mood and needs of the Muslims and of the Palestinian man in the street. He was a moderate figure but one who stood up for what he believed in and did not care who was upset by it. This attitude was amply illustrated in a string of statements and fatwas, or religious declarations which the Mufti issued, particularly in his later years. In 1983 he lashed out at President Hafez Assad of Syria for encouraging and participating in the bloody factional fighting among the Palestinians in Lebanon. "The Alawite murderer [Assad] is behind this slaughter and destruction" el-Alami said, declaring: "the Muslim who kills Assad will not only be a national hero but will also gain a place in paradise".

As the Gulf War between Iraq and the allies drew closer in 1991 the Mufti reflected Palestinian feeling when he travelled to Baghdad to participate in an Islamic conference organised by supporters of Iraq in the Muslim world. Earlier the Palestinian press in the West Bank had carried warm words of support for Saddam Hussein from the Mufti together with his call for the Iraqi ruler to "cleanse the Islamic lands and purify the Ka'aba" — a not so veiled call for an Iraqi conquest of Saudi Arabia where the city of Mecca houses the holy shrine.

El Alami's relations with the Israeli authorities were correct — but often tense. The Mufti was particularly concerned that the Muslim and Arab character of his city would be eroded by Israeli actions. Israelis were frequently angered by his declarations and the media interviews he gave when he travelled abroad. Several years ago interviews given by the Mufti charged the Israeli authorities with condoning the torture of Palestinians and said the Jews wanted to drive the Arabs out of Jerusalem and out of the country entirely. This prompted Jerusalem's mayor, Teddy Kollek, to dispatch a sharp letter to the Mufti calling on him to issue a formal denial. However, in spite of their political disagreements, their relations on municipal matters and on a personal level were good.

El-Alami's death marks a break in a chain spanning almost 500 years during which an el-Alami has been connected with Muslim religious affairs.

Saad a-Din el-Alami leaves his widow, four daughters and three sons — one a doctor in Jerusalem, the two others engineers in Oman and Morocco.

SIR ZACHRY BRIERLEY

Sir Zachry Brierley, CBE, chairman Z. Brierley Ltd, 1957-90, and a former Wales Area Conservative Council chairman, died on February 5 aged 72. He was born on April 16, 1920.

ZACHRY Brierley was a successful Llandudno businessman with broad horizons who vigorously dedicated himself to the causes he espoused and closely identified himself with them. Educated at Rydal School, Colwyn Bay, he joined the family firm, Z. Brierley Ltd (machine tools), in 1938. After serving in the RAF during the war, he rejoined the company and became chairman and managing director in 1957. He remained as managing director until 1973.

His experience, especially of small and medium-sized businesses, and his high personal standing brought him to the notice of the Welsh Office. He served on the Welsh Industrial Development Board, 1972-82 and on the Board of the Welsh Development Agency, 1975-86. He was one of the architects of Wales's modern industrial success.

He was a leading Conservative, both locally in the Conwy constituency and in Wales. He became Wales Area Conservative Council chairman 1982-86. He was appointed MBE in 1969, advanced to CBE in 1978 and knighted in 1987.

He will be remembered by his friends as an ever-youthful enthusiast with a keen sense of the practical, always prepared to tackle a problem with an engineer's ingenuity and inventiveness.

He leaves his widow, Iris, and their daughter.

WILLIAM YOUNGER, GC

William Younger, GC, one of the heroes of the Louisa Colliery disaster of 1947 in which 21 men were killed, died in Consett, Co Durham, on February 6 aged 83. He was born in South Moor, co. Durham, on March 24, 1909.



Younger, rear left, and colleagues bring out an injured man from the Louisa Colliery

WILLIAM Younger was the last survivor of the four heroes of the underground rescue following a gas explosion at the Louisa Colliery, South Moor, co. Durham, in August 1947. He was also the last of the holders of the original Edward Medal in Silver (subsequently exchanged for the George Cross).

A complete disregard for his own safety and great powers of physical endurance were united in William Younger, as they needed to be on the night of August 22, 1947. He and two fellow pit deputies, Harry Robinson and Joseph Shanley, were all below ground in the Louisa's old section when, just before midnight, an explosion of firedamp and coal dust tore through the seam. Of the 24 men who were working there at the time, 19 were killed almost immediately, either from the effects of blast and burns or from inhaling the firedamp's lethal components: methane, nitrogen and carbon monoxide.

With their unrivalled knowledge of the mine's roadways and ventilating circuits, it would have been the easiest — as well as most tempting — option for the deputies to have made their own escape from a highly dangerous situation in which it seemed unlikely they could give any effective help. The inherent instability of the firedamp made further explosions quite likely, while the damage to the galleries rendered roof falls a distinct possibility. But through choking dust, Younger and his colleagues made their way to the scene, climbing over and round the derailed tubs which littered their path. There they were joined by an overman, John Hutchinson, who had come down from the surface.

Working feverishly in an atmosphere which was so obscure that the beams of their helmet lamps carried little more than a foot, the four men remained down the mine for nearly two hours, moving the badly injured men from the scene of the explosion to a drift where the air conditions were less foul. They themselves continued working in fumes which were so deadly that a canary, lowered down the mineshaft to ascertain the quality of the air, expired almost as soon as it got to the bottom. The deputies carried on until their exertions had enabled five of the two dozen casualties to be brought alive to the surface. Of these, two subsequently died in hospital. But certainly, without the efforts of Younger and his colleagues the three eventual survivors, too, would have perished.

All four men were awarded the Edward Medal in Silver for their bravery on that day. In 1971 the Edward Medal was revoked as a decoration and all holders were given the option of exchanging it for the George Cross. This Younger did, and his Edward Medal in Silver is now in the Beamish Museum, co. Durham.

William Younger spent 46 years as a miner, after leaving elementary school at South Moor, where he grew up. He first went down the pit in 1923, subsequently becoming a deputy and retiring in 1969. He was for many years a member of the St John's Ambulance Brigade and held its long service medal with two bars. He received the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1977.

In retirement he lived quietly in his native county, to the end a delightfully self-depreciating man who embodied the staunchness and comradely qualities of the mining fraternity. He bore his final illness with great fortitude.

He was a widower, with two daughters.

TITI WACHTMEISTER

Countess Christina Wachtmeister, model and sometime companion to Peter Sellers and King Carl Gustaf of Sweden, died on January 21 of a brain haemorrhage aged 43. She was born on October 3, 1949.

COUNTESS Christina "Titi" Wachtmeister, a top model in Sixties London, was famous for the company she kept and for a string of high-profile boyfriends.

Titi is the traditional Swedish nickname for Christina. However, its unfortunate overtones caused problems for George Harrison when he tried to name his nightclub after her. Until 1970 the Mayfair club had been called Sibylla's after Sibylla Edmonstone, the Marshall Field heiress and a cousin of Camilla Parker Bowles. When Harrison rechristened it Titi's, the Crown Estates office objected to the "vulgar" name and demanded it be dropped. The club was eventually called Flicka.

The daughter of Count Wilhelm Wachtmeister, the Swedish ambassador in Washington, Titi divided her time between diplomatic parties and society balls before taking up modelling. With the looks of a blonde Jean Shrimpton, she was already a successful cover girl when she came to London at the age of 21. She moved into a Chelsea flat with her sister, Anna, and was seen about town with an old school friend, Ben Ekland, brother of Britt.

Ben introduced the vivacious Titi to Peter Sellers, his former brother-in-law, who was then married to Lord Mancroft's daughter, Miranda. Despite the 24-year age difference, the two enjoyed a passionate three-year affair and, after Sellers's divorce came through, marriage seemed likely. But the relationship ended in a blaze of unpleasant publicity, with Sellers demanding the return of one of his gifts — a £2000 Cartier watch — and Titi anxious to recover family jewels and a favourite stuffed dog.

Gossips also predicted marriage with another escort, King Carl Gustaf of Sweden. But Titi ended speculation in 1977 when she married a Geneva-based corporate lawyer, Enrico Monfrini, who was himself the son of the Swiss ambassador to Rome. Their wedding in Washington attracted 150 jet-set partygoers from all over the world, including Gunter Sachs and Dai Llewellyn. The couple later separated.

A slightly plumper Titi re-emerged in 1987 to launch a line of highly priced T-shirts which she called "T-T's Ts".



JOHN HORRY

John Horry, MBE, first full-time secretary of the Squash Rackets Association and founding secretary of the International Squash Rackets Federation, died in Dorset on January 25 aged 87. He was born in Lincolnshire on March 30, 1905.

UNMARRIED, deeply conservative and, in some instances, abruptly disciplinarian, John Horry was an unlikely figure to provide the bridge between the amateur and elitist squash rackets game of Britain's yesteryear and the flourishing worldwide open sport of today. Yet his was certainly the guiding hand that welcomed overseas players into the British game and set the organisation of international squash in motion.

When Horry was first retained as secretary of the Squash Rackets Association in 1955 there were 700 registered players and 350 affiliated clubs in Great Britain. Some 17 years later, when he retired from the SRA, the playing membership was close to 3,000 and the affiliation numbers had doubled.

By the time he stood down as secretary of the International Squad Rackets Federation in 1975, British playing figures were approaching three million, in some 3,000 clubs, and world statistics were building towards today's 15 million players in 122 nations.

Across the span of 20 years, John Horry erected almost single-handedly the fabric of a sporting network that converted a hard but simple game, principally enjoyed by public schoolboys and military officers, to a world-wide competitive enthusiasm for both sexes currently on the verge of Olympic recognition.

From a tiny office in Park Crescent, equipped with a battered typewriter, a creaking duplicator, an elderly addressograph and a single telephone, Horry administered a burgeoning domestic game and the two major tournaments of the era, the British Amateur Championship and the British Open Championship.

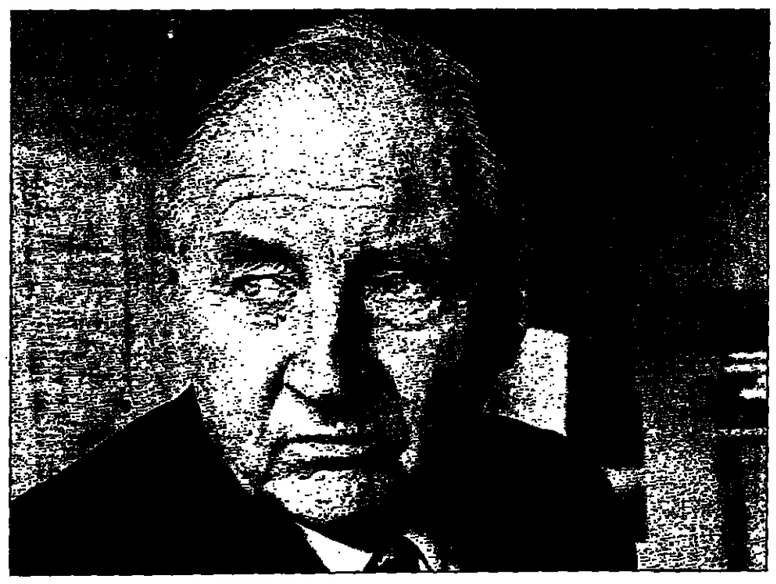
His working days invariably began at 6am, often extended to midnight and amounted to seven in most weeks. All for the most meagre of salaries.

At his flat in Artillery Mansions, a bed, a meal and endless advice were dispensed to young and overseas players on first visits to London. Rare is the dominant international squash player of that time who cannot include a John Horry anecdote in his memoirs.

The great Jonah Barrington might not have survived to become Britain's most successful player without occasional access to Horry's address book. The legendary Jahangir Khan might never have found his early introduction to the game had not Horry personally sponsored his penniless and shivering father, Roshan Khan, when he first ventured from Karachi equipped only with a £5 note, a pair of plimsolls and a borrowed navy greatcoat. He was far from alone in such benificent treatment from the man visiting Americans fondly nicknamed "Mr Worry".

Wartime service in the Royal Navy left Horry with a shoulder wound that inhibited his overarm tennis serve but little else. He had little time for the showcase professional sport that has developed so widely in recent years, but a huge enthusiasm for the players' game.

It was an increasing clamour for recognition from overseas that led him to organise the first meetings of the ISRF (now converted to the World Squash Federation). On his retirement in 1972 he was made an MBE for services to squash rackets. His *Story of Squash*, published in 1979, is generally regarded as a definitive history of the sport.



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Power cuts start tomorrow

The National Coal Board last night made a new pay offer to the leaders of the miners' union, but our Labour Correspondent says it is likely to be rejected by the union's executive today. Rises would range from £2.75 to £3.50 a week, but the £48 "package" is spread over 18 months instead of the present yearly agreement. A state of emergency was declared yesterday, giving the Government sweeping powers to maintain essential supplies during the miners' strike.

Power cuts are authorized from tomorrow morning. From midnight tonight restrictions will operate on the use of shop lighting, sports floodlighting and cinema and theatre advertising. A third of Britain will have power cuts from 6 am tomorrow.

Miners' union leaders last night received a new offer from the National Coal Board of rises ranging from £2.75 to £3.50 a week. The board also offered a minimum earnings guarantee for the industry of £22 a week as part of the £48m package spread over 18 months instead of the present yearly agreement.

The miners' union executive, meeting in London today, is expected to reject the proposed deal because it does not improve on the board's "final offer" in percentage terms. Miners' negotiators are angry because the rates would obtain only after a resumption of work.

Surface workers would get another £3 a week on basic rates, half as much again as was last offered: underground workers £3.50, and face workers £2.75.

Mr Joe Gormley, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, said: "It seems they want to give us the same amount but over a longer period. I don't think the executive will be very happy about this."

The signs are that the leadership will prepare for a longer fight; but that does not mean that they will refuse to continue negotiating.

Mr Gormley added: "I hope the executive will instruct us to get back and see how we can push the board into a better offer."

The new coal board offer was put during talks at the Department of Employment. Mr Carr, Secretary of State for Employment, stood by in case his personal intervention was requested.

Power cuts affecting a third of Britain will start at 6 am tomorrow, the Central Electricity Generating Board said last night. The cuts would last from three to four hours each day but would be made on a rota basis so that the same area would not be affected each day.

ON THIS DAY

February 10 1972

The power cuts, reducing industry to a three-day week, lasted three weeks. A court of enquiry headed by Lord Wilberforce recommended a £6 per week increase for the miners, which they accepted.

Dear Fluffikins, all this could be yours

Home is where the heart lies. **Rachel Kelly** looks at ideal love nests in time for St Valentine's day

The royals used to be more romantic. When Henry II sought to house his mistress, Rosamond the Fair, he built her a love nest at Godstow, near Oxford.

The building was described in 1350 by Higden, the monk of Chester, as a "house of wonderful working, so that no man or woman might come to her. The house was named Labyrinthus, and was wrought like unto a knot in a garden called a maze." Henry VIII built St James's Palace for his paramours; George II built Marble Hill in Twickenham for his.

Last week the newly wed Princess Royal chose a Pimlico apartment called Dolphin Square — the largest block of flats in Europe — to be a bower for herself and husband Commander Tim Laurence. Hardly the stuff of dreams.

The 1930s building in SW1 is more spooks' nest than love nest. Home to Christine Keeler and Mandy Rice-Davies in the 1960s, the address was further tarred when the Admiralty clerk and tenant William John Vassall was unmasked as a spy. The square hit the headlines again in the 1970s when a brothel was discovered in one flat and a murder in another.

> 'There is a conspiracy of silence among those in a mews'

If only the princess had absorbed something of the romanticism of her forebears. She could have chosen from some of the most romantic residences in London, lovingly selected by the capital's estate agents.

The agents I spoke to all agreed that a mews house is a perfect London lovers' rendezvous. Edward VII was rumoured to have consorted with Lillie Langtry in a house at the bottom of the garden of 62 Lillie Road, SW6, and mews properties with their garden entrances and bijou proportions have been popular ever since.

Their image has been slightly dented only by the odd scandal: Stephen Ward committed suicide in the Wimpole Mews house where Christine Keeler slept with John Profumo, while the Bryanston Mews flat bought for Mandy Rice-Davies by Peter Rachman, the slum landlord, became infamous as a den for orgies.

Gone is the 19th-century dominance of St John's Wood as London's best area for mistresses because of its access to fashionable areas: Clare Berry of Savills chose Brook's Mews in the West End, within lunchtime commuting distance of shops and offices.

"There is a conspiracy of silence among those who live in mews," she says, "whereas you are fair game for gossips if the house is in a well-known street. You can slip in and out of a mews and nobody will notice, or if they do, they will keep quiet."

On Savills books is 11 Grosvenor Cottages, in London SW1. Approached through a pair of wrought iron gates and a garden, the double-fronted house is tucked away in the private cobbled mews behind Eaton Terrace (itself a possible venue: Alice Keppel reportedly erected a porch on her flat-fronted Eaton Terrace house so that Edward VII could alight from his carriage and enter unseen).

For mistresses who lunch, 11 Grosvenor Cottages is within walking distance of Sloane Square and close to Knightsbridge. The cottage is for sale at £675,000.

Knight Frank & Rutley rejects mews houses in favour of Flat 4, 25 St James's Place, SW1, which, according to agent Richard Crosthwaite, is London's sexiest property, with a balcony overlooking Green Park, on offer at £2.9 million.

Failing a mews house or St James's Place, bolt holes that can be reached by river are suitable. Anything on the Thames, whether at Kingston, Richmond or in Docklands (good for City office romances) has the advantage of sunsets over water.

For those wanting a love match and a big family, Orchard House, Coombe Hill, Kingston upon Thames, near Wimbledon, is set in a three-quarter acre garden and has six bedrooms, says John D. Wood, the agent. Offers should be around £1 million.

The Gazebo in Friars Lane, Richmond, is an octagonal two-storey 18th-century building, for sale at £200,000. Lovers might consider its bedroom, nestling in the roof, and its easy access to the Thames. Set within the grounds of Queensberry House, the river's towpath is a short stroll, says Hamptons, the agent.

Outside the metropolis, the counties of Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Hampshire score highly with agents for hideaway appeal, in part because of their good connections to London and Heathrow. "Gloucestershire is the most romantic county," says Geoffrey van Cutsem of Savills. "I think it is the royal associations and all that polo and Jilly Cooper and hunting: it is made for romance."

Mr Cutsem tells the story of a pretty cottage in the Cotswolds. A commodities broker expressed interest, fell in love with the house and insisted on exchanging contracts on February 13. On the day his plans were dashed: the girl he planned to give the house to as a St Valentine's gift had left him. The story ended happily when he became engaged to the female estate agent who had originally shown him around and they bought the house together.

> One jilted lover wed the estate agent who showed him around a house

Pepperbox Cottage in Hampshire will soon be wreathed in roses and is worthy of a thousand chocolate box lids. It is also handy for the M3. The 400-year-old listed thatched cottage in the small north Hampshire village of Lasham hides in a secluded garden, away from prying eyes with an oak-beamed bedroom and thatched roof. Cost: £195,000.

Further afield, the Yorkshire moors and dales, the Lake District and Devon and Cornwall all have appeal. Country squires have a different set of geographical priorities: they can follow the long-established tradition of their forebears and use an estate cottage for their lovers. The example of the Marquess of Bath housing his "wifelets" on his estate is well-known, but there are other more secretive affairs.

The rest of us have less reason for caution and the timeliness of St Valentine's day this weekend to spur us into the ultimate romantic gesture: buying a home for our beloved and competing with past royals in the romantic stakes.



Clockwise from top left: Orchard House, Kingston upon Thames; Grosvenor Cottages, SW1; the bedroom at Flat 4, St James's Place, SW1, and Pepperbox Cottage

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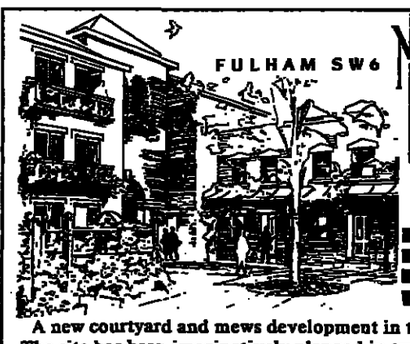
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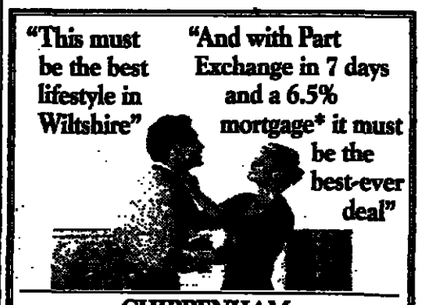
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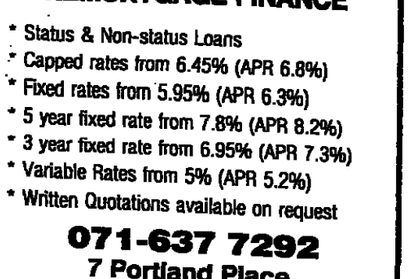
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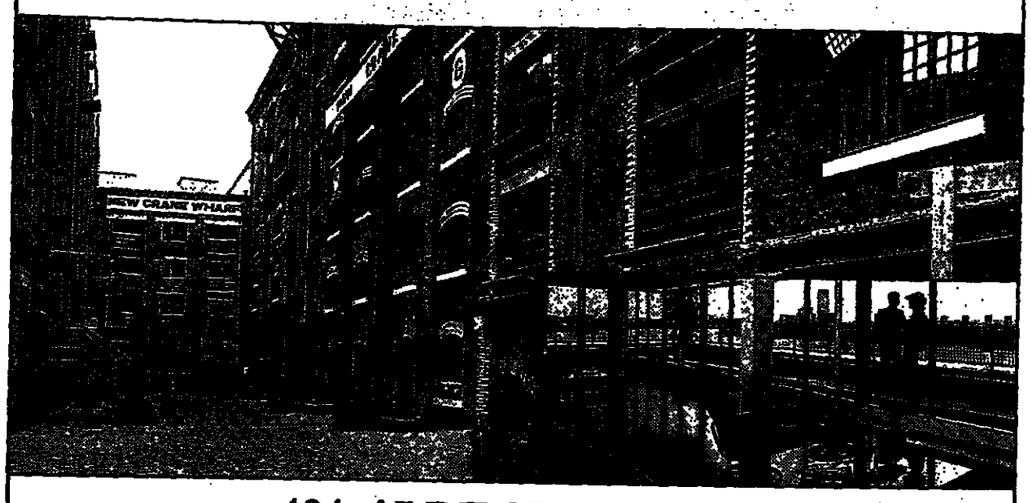
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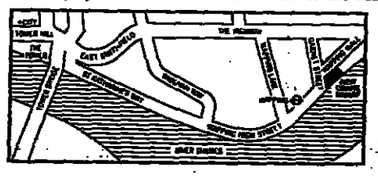
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NEWS

Tory rebels line up to back Smith

■ A number of Tory Euro-sceptics and the Liberal Democrats announced last night that they would vote with Labour on a key amendment to the Maastricht treaty bill, which left John Major facing a knife-edge vote that might leave the pact in chaos.

Lord Tebbit, a vocal opponent of the treaty, will encourage the Tory rebels to vote on the Labour side over the social chapter arguing that an alteration to the Maastricht bill would kill the treaty..... **Pages 1, 6, 13**

Rosyth and Devonport are reprieved

■ Malcolm Rifkind, the defence secretary, announced that Rosyth and Devonport will stay open in a move to safeguard thousands of jobs, but a decision on which will get the contract to refit the Trident submarine has been delayed... **Pages 1, 4**

Euthanasia vote

The Netherlands parliament has approved a cabinet recommendation and voted to permit mercy killing under strict guidelines, making it the first industrialised nation to sanction euthanasia officially..... **Pages 1, 9**

Spending rethink

John Major has emphasised that it was necessary to look closely at how the government spent £250 billion of taxpayers' money, where it was spent and to ensure that the best value for money is secured..... **Page 2**

Bard art

The planned sale of a portrait miniature, said to be of William Shakespeare, has revived the debate among art historians about what the Bard really looked like..... **Page 3**

Ulster trap

An IRA booby trap killed one soldier and wounded four others in the worst day of army casualties in Northern Ireland for more than a year..... **Page 3**

Tests still on

John Patten, the education secretary, has said that English tests for 14-year-olds will go ahead this summer to prevent up to one in ten teenagers leaving school almost illiterate..... **Page 4**

Gatt demands

The EC team is preparing to be met by further demands from the Americans when the two sides gather for talks in Washington aimed at salvaging a new world trade agreement... **Page 9**

Peace plan shuffle

Britain is working with key powers in the UN to draw up proposals toughening the Owen-Vance plan for peace in Bosnia and making it more acceptable to Muslims there..... **Page 8**

Clinton casualties

At least 12 candidates for Clinton administration jobs have failed because they could not answer satisfactorily questions about their employment of illegal immigrants..... **Page 9**

Facing life

MPs and human rights groups are calling for the release of David Ward and Stephen Hillman, two Britons who having been charged with sedition after entering Nagaland, a north eastern region of India, face life imprisonment..... **Page 5**

Money mystery

Police have been called in to track down as much as £300,000 thought to be missing from the funds of the British Council which promotes the nation's cultural interests abroad..... **Page 3**

Coastline check

British researchers have developed an electronic pebble containing a circuit and a battery which produces a series of coded signals to help local authorities plan coastal defence strategies..... **Page 5**

Ivan's treasure trove not so terrible

■ The lost library and treasures of the 16-century Russian tsar, Ivan the Terrible, including priceless works of art, have been found, Russians archaeologists believe, in a labyrinth of tunnels and underground chambers at the site of what was once the royal palace near the town of Alexandrov, north of Moscow..... **Page 8**



Learned lady: Bud Davis, left and Allen Copping of Louisiana State University, confer an honorary doctorate on Baroness Thatcher

BUSINESS

DAF move: Leyland DAF administrators are negotiating the possible sale of the company's lorry plant in Lancashire to a new company to be jointly funded by the Dutch government and Flemish state government in Belgium..... **Page 19**

Price fear: Concern about the future inflationary impact of sterling's devaluation was underlined by evidence of an import prices increase in January..... **Page 19**

Markets: The pound hit record lows against the mark and the yen and another new six-year low against the dollar in early trading. It rose from lowest levels to close 0.50 cents lower at $1.4330 and down 1.40 pfennigs at DM2.3673. The FT-SE 100 index of leading shares slumped 38.7 to 2,831.3..... **Page 22**

SPORT

Football: Adults will need to part with £65 and their children £45 if they wish to buy replicas of the kit worn by the England football team after the FA signed a £15 million contract with Umbro..... **Page 36**

Tennis: James Baily, who won the Australian Open junior championship last week, makes his debut on the senior circuit at Eastbourne today..... **Page 36**

Athletics: Germany is proposing that the International Amateur Athletics Federation reduces its four-year mandatory ban for taking anabolic steroids because of possible courts reaction.... **Page 34**

MODERN TIMES

Priest on trial: "Father Bernard Lynch's life story is the stuff of epic and blockbuster with shades of Graham Greene, and his manner that of a nice polite young country priest from County Clare." Libby Purves reports..... **Page 10**

MEDIA

Key numbers: Viewers are turned off by television advertisements, but one idea may lure them back. Bingo. Robin Hunt reports on Hughie Green's new idea..... **Page 28**

SOCIETY

The stuff of dreams: Rachel Kelly looks at ideal love nests in time for St Valentine's day..... **Page 16**

Not a matter of class: The National Theatre and English National Opera are beating the recession and involving greater numbers than ever in participatory activities..... **Page 29**

Still growing: Polish composer Witold Lutoslawski is an octogenarian whose music grows more modern..... **Page 31**

Moving experiences: Acclaimed productions of *Richard III* and Harold Pinter's *No Man's Land* are now in the West End. Times critics take another look... **Page 29**

Bold barber: American singer Thomas Hampson, on his Royal Opera debut, steals the show as *The Barber of Seville*..... **Page 30**

Toupée or not toupée? "Nothing about men is more enduring or mysterious than their ever-popular passion for the ginger wig. Even the rich and famous, especially the rich and famous, prefer to look daft with something fake and funny on their heads than to admit they are balding." Barbara Toner looks into the many mysteries of the hairpiece..... **Page 11**

Dream package: "The new canniness of the would-be model and the extraordinary wealth and influence of the made-it model may be among the least foreseen victories for the forces of feminism." Sarah Mower on the modelling business..... **Page 11**

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS



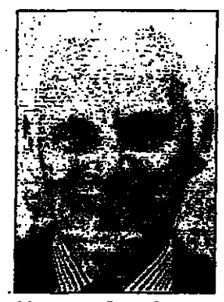
Graeme Hick, more successful as a bowler so far, is hoping for his first big Test innings against India in Madras beginning tomorrow **Page 36**



Boris Yeltsin has called for early presidential elections in Russia and a moratorium on "political fist-fighting" **Page 7**



Ros Hepplewhite is about to launch a nationwide hunt for absent parents who are dodging their legal obligation to provide maintenance **Pages 1, 5**



Sir James McKinnon, head of Ofgas, is at the centre of a dispute after his organisation said complaints against British Gas had doubled **Page 20**

During the second world war more than 200,000 Polish children were "stolen" from their homeland by the Nazis. *Timewatch* (BBC2, 8.10) follows the stories of two of them..... **Page 35**

The Maastricht vice

Mr Major has done his best to honour his Maastricht pledge. His best course would be to turn the tables on Labour, making it clear that if its amendment carries, the government will not reopen negotiations..... **Page 13**

Cubs of the bear

Ukraine is starting on economic reforms and is seeking substantial Western investment. It should be made clear to Mr Kravchuk that he must first accept international arms control standards..... **Page 13**

Video pulpit

Faith may be harder to sell than soap powder; but the airwaves are no worse a place for the preacher than the pulpit..... **Page 13**

SIMON JENKINS

Western governments are rightly fighting shy of the Bosnian hysteria, but their nervousness is palpable. The Owen-Vance plan is what Lord Owen calls "the only show in town" — true if by town you mean America. But it does not give the Serbs all they now have, nor does it give the Bosnians what they believe outside intervention and more arms shipments might bring. War is still the only show in the town that matters..... **Page 12**

R. W JOHNSON

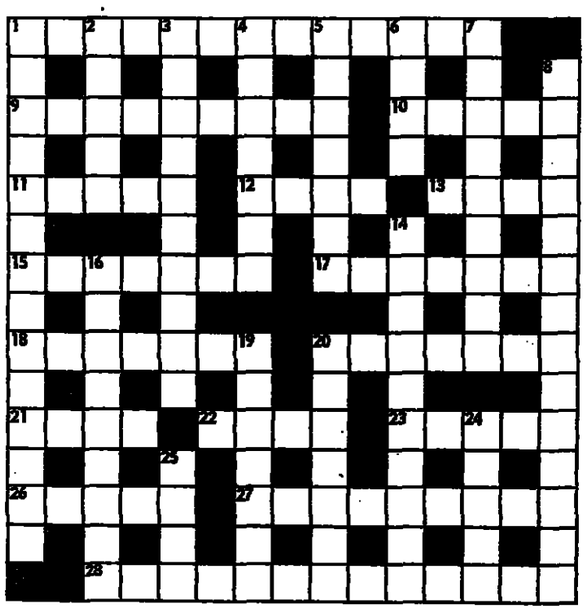
The great question which remains in South Africa is that of federalism. Without major concessions on this issue by the African National Congress, it is impossible to imagine a lasting peace with Chief Buthelezi or the white right: indeed, to refuse federalism is to risk secession and the break-up of the country..... **Page 12**

Correspondents comment on the shortcomings of the economists' forecasts..... **Page 13**

As a candidate, Mr Clinton was full of hairline distinctions on nuanced questions about his own personal life and professional record. As president he has a responsibility to lead public opinion and stake out the standards by which he will govern

The New York Times

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,150



ACROSS

1 Inability to make out after a fall? (4-9).
9 Having done, left port with too much cargo (9).
10 Maxim sounds clumsy (5).
11 Fourth-class train is comfortless (5).
12 Comfortable middy? (4).
13 Remarkable person a setback for gambling centre (4).
15 A trivial thing that can be shelved! (7).
17 Brand of Christmas cheer you will book, say? (4-3).
18 Learning lines (7).
20 Many set free in condonation (7).
21 Unmatched piece of the sporran (4).
22 Prophet here knocked back an intoxicating drink (4).
23 Eat small amounts – it makes sense (5).
26 Antelope of eastern district? (5).
27 Spearworts, for example, uncurl in a flurry (9).
28 Freedom of speech in Dunbar, say? (6-7).

DOWN

1 One who, in turn, may take in Toledo? (5-9).
2 Plump, round bees swarming (5).
3 Great Tom, say, double or treble player? (4-6).
4 Batting, established oneself and was never out (7).
5 Empty day, unpleasant as a rule (7).
6 Work-unit on oxygen for that reason (4).
7 Stifles to trouble horses (9).
8 It will blow up in re-entry, logic orders (5-9).
14 Board having a pick-me-up on sea-food (10).
16 Dangerous gas of mine following dripping? (5-4).
19 Aramis, the second of Dumas's disguised warriors out east (7).
20 Footballers' magazine (7).
24 Reject drive north? (5).
25 Slight advantage of golf club without tungsten head (4).

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Concise Crossword, page 36

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For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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WEATHER

After some mist and fog, much of England, Wales and central and eastern Scotland will be cloudy and dry with some brighter spells. Western Scotland and Northern Ireland will have outbreaks of light rain. During the evening thickening mist and fog patches will form in some areas. It will be colder than yesterday in most places. Outlook: rain will move across north-western areas, with brighter weather following.

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	15	59	f	Majorca	15	59	s
Akrotiri	11	52	s	Malaga	16	61	s
Alex'dria	12	54	c	Malta	14	57	c
Algiers	17	63	f	Melb'rne	17	63	c
Amst'dm	5	41	fg	Mexico C*	16	61	s
Athens	10	50	s	Miami*	23	73	c
Bahrain	16	61	s	Milan	3	37	fg
Bangkok	31	88	s	Montreal*	-13	9	s
Barbados*	26	79	s	Moscow	3	37	c
Barcelna	12	54	f	Munich	-1	30	c
Belgrade	6	43	s	Naples	14	57	f
Berlin	4	39	c	N Delhi	24	75	s
Bermuda*	22	72	f	N York*	4	39	s
Biarritz	13	55	s	Nice	14	57	f
Borde'x	11	52	c	Oslo	1	34	s
Brussels	3	37	c	Paris	3	37	c
Budapst	3	37	s	Peking	6	43	s
B Aires*	14	57	r	Perth	31	88	s
Cairo	13	55	f	Prague	-1	30	fg
Cape Tn	34	93	s	Reykjavik	7	45	c
Chicago*	-1	30	sn	Rhodes	10	50	s
Ch'church	19	66	f	Rio de J	32	90	s
Cologne	5	41	s	Rio de J*	42	108	f
C'phagn	3	37	d	Riyadh	18	65	f
Corfu	13	55	s	Rome	13	55	f
Dublin	8	46	c	Salzburg	1	34	c
Faro	17	63	c	S F'isco*	13	55	s
Florence	13	55	s	Santiago*	29	84	s
Frankfurt	2	36	c	S Paulo*	26	82	c
Funchal	18	64	f	Seoul	2	36	s
Geneva	3	37	c	Sing'por	31	88	f
Gibraltar	15	59	c	St'kholm	7	45	s
Helsinki	8	46	s	Strasb'rg	3	37	c
Hong K	22	72	s	Sydney	28	82	f
Innsbruck	9	48	s	Tangier	18	64	s
Istanbul	4	39	f	Tel Aviv	8	46	c
Jeddah	23	73	s	Tenerife	19	66	s
Jo'burg*	22	72	f	Tokyo	8	46	f
Karachi	33	91	s	Toronto*	-8	18	s
L Palmas	19	66	s	Tunis	13	55	r
Le Touqt	4	39	c	Valencia	15	59	s
Lisbon	12	54	c	Vanc'ver*	6	43	s
Locarno	8	46	s	Venice	5	41	c
London	6	43	d	Vienna	3	37	s
L Angels*	16	61	r	Warsaw	1	34	c
Luxembg	0	32	c	Wash'ton*	-1	30	c
Luxor	16	61	s	Wel'ton	19	66	s
Madrid	9	48	s	Zurich	2	36	c

* denotes figures are latest available

LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 8C (46F); min 6pm to 6am, 6C (43F). Humidity: 6pm, 72 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6pm, 1,031.8 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Morecambe Bay, Lancashire, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Weybourne, Norfolk, 8C (43F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, Highland, 0.10in; highest sunshine: Aviemore, Highland, 3.6hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 7C (45F); min 6pm to 6am, 7C (45F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.

GLASGOW

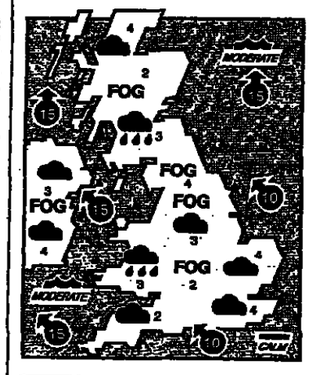
Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 10C (50F); min 6pm to 6am, 7C (45F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, trace. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, nil.

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	-	8	46	drizzle
Anglesey	-	0.61	10	50	cloudy
Aviemore	3.6	-	9	48	sunny
Belfast	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Birmingham	-	-	10	50	drizzle
Bognor Regis	-	0.02	9	48	cloudy
Bournemouth	-	0.02	9	48	cloudy
Bristol	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Buxton	-	0.01	9	48	drizzle
Cardiff	-	0.01	9	48	cloudy
Clacton	-	0.02	8	46	drizzle
Cromer	0.1	0.06	7	45	fog
Douglas	-	-	9	48	fog
Edinburgh	-	-	7	45	drizzle
Eskdalemuir	-	0.02	10	50	drizzle
Exmouth	-	0.05	9	48	drizzle
Falmouth	-	0.02	9	48	cloudy
Folkestone	-	0.01	8	46	drizzle
Glasgow	-	-	8	46	drizzle
Guernsey	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Hastings	-	0.02	7	45	cloudy
Hunstanton	-	0.02	8	46	fog
Jersey	-	-	7	45	cloudy
Kinloss	0.9	-	9	48	cloudy
Leeds	-	0.02	11	52	drizzle
Lerwick	0.5	0.02	8	46	fog
Littlehampton	-	0.01	9	48	cloudy
Liverpool	-	0.01	11	52	dull
London	-	0.01	11	52	cloudy
Lowestoft	-	0.03	7	45	drizzle
Manchester	-	-	11	52	cloudy
Margate	-	0.02	8	46	drizzle
Minehead	-	0.01	9	48	drizzle
Morecambe	0.2	0.01	12	54	dull
Newcastle	-	-	9	48	drizzle
Newquay	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Nottingham	-	0.01	9	48	drizzle
Penzance	-	-	10	50	drizzle
Plymouth	-	0.02	9	48	drizzle
Prestwick	-	-	9	48	drizzle
Saunton Snd	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Scarborough	-	0.02	11	52	fog
Scilly Isles	-	0.05	9	48	drizzle
Shanklin	-	0.04	8	46	cloudy
Southsea	-	0.01	9	48	cloudy
Stornoway	0.2	0.01	9	48	drizzle
Swanage	-	0.02	8	46	drizzle
Teignmouth	-	0.01	9	48	drizzle
Tenby	-	0.01	10	50	cloudy
Tiree	-	-	8	46	cloudy
Torquay	-	0.02	-	-	x cloudy
Wick	-	-	9	48	drizzle
Worthing	-	0.02	9	48	dull

x denotes not available

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.23	2.03
Austria Sch	17.65	16.15
Belgium Fr	51.95	47.55
Canada $	1.925	1.765
Denmark Kr	9.65	8.85
Finland Mkk	9.04	8.24
France Fr	8.50	7.80
Germany Dm	2.51	2.31
Greece Dr	339.00	314.00
Hong Kong $	11.74	10.74
Ireland Pt	1.025	0.945
Italy Lira	2290.00	2125.00
Japan Yen	182.00	173.00
Netherlands Gld	2.825	2.595
Norway Kr	10.63	9.83
Portugal Esc	225.50	207.50
South Africa Rd	5.40	4.70
Spain Pta	174.00	161.00
Sweden Kr	11.28	10.48
Switzerland Fr	2.33	2.15
Turkey Lira	13700.0	12700.0
USA $	1.517	1.392

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.





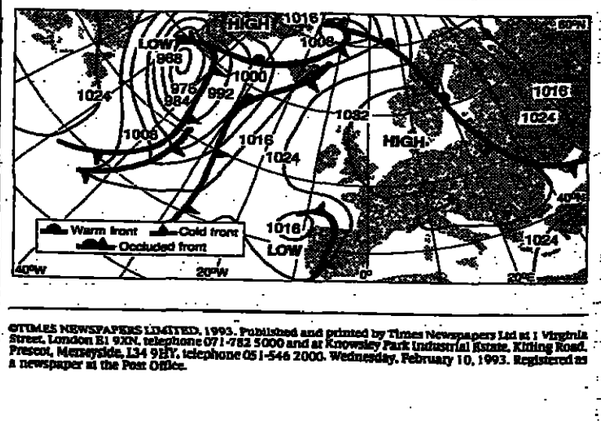
London 5.07 pm to 7.22 am
Bristol 5.18 pm to 7.32 am
Edinburgh 5.06 pm to 7.47 am
Manchester 5.10 pm to 7.38 am
Penzance 5.22 pm to 7.40 am

Sun rises: 7.24 am
Sun sets: 5.07 pm
Moon rises 10.52 pm
Moon sets 8.23 am
Last quarter February 13

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	7	45	d	Guernsey	6	43	d
B'mgham	8	43	d	Inverness	3	37	fg
Blackpool	8	46	c	Jersey	5	41	c
Bristol	7	45	c	London	6	43	d
Cardiff	7	45	c	M'nchster	6	43	c
Edinburgh	9	48	c	Newcastle	7	45	d
Glasgow	9	48	c	R'nldsway	8	46	c

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	3.53	7.6	4.23	7.6	Liverpool	1.13	8.9	1.31	10.1
Aberdeen	3.27	4.4	3.36	4.7	Lowestoft	11.52	2.3	11.52	2.7
Avonmouth	9.29	14.2	9.53	13.7	Margate	1.59	5.0	2.37	4.8
Belfast	1.03	3.4	1.20	3.8	Milford Haven	8.27	7.6	8.50	7.2
Cardiff	9.14	13.1	9.38	12.7	Newquay	7.18	7.8	7.42	7.2
Devonport	8.03	5.8	8.28	5.5	Oban	7.45	4.2	8.06	3.9
Dover	12.57	7.0	1.16	6.7	Penzance	7.06	5.9	7.31	5.8
Falmouth	7.33	5.6	7.56	5.3	Portland	9.01	2.3	9.26	2.0
Glasgow	3.12	4.8	3.08	5.3	Portsmouth	1.21	5.1	1.36	5.0
Harwich	1.48	4.2	2.16	4.1	Shoreham	1.17	6.7	1.37	6.5
Holyhead	12.11	5.8	12.29	6.1	Southampton	12.49	4.9	1.08	4.7
Hull	8.27	7.9	8.37	8.3	Swansea	8.33	10.2	8.54	9.7
Ilfracombe	8.13	8.9	8.36	9.5	Tees	5.54	5.6	6.05	5.8
King's Lynn	8.50	6.9	8.53	7.3	W'ton-on-Nze	1.40	4.4	2.09	4.9
Leith	4.57	5.8	5.13	6.0					



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هذا من الاصل



BUSINESS 19-24

Charter sale consolidates its war chest



ARTS 29-31

Ciaran Hinds: a sinister Richard III at the RSC



SPORT 32-36

England sign £15 million kit deal

TELEVISION AND RADIO Page 35

THE TIMES

2

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 10 1993

BUSINESS TODAY

ATTACKING



Martin Bangemann, the European industry commissioner, has told leading steelmakers he opposes production and delivery quotas
Page 21

PROSPERING

News Corporation doubled pre-tax profits to A$581 million from A$298 million in the six months to the end of December
Page 21

CHALLENGING

Gas

British Gas has challenged near-doubled levels of complaints recorded by Ofgas in its annual report
Page 20

THE POUND

US $ ..... 1.4330 (-0.0050)
German mark ... 2.3673 (-0.0140)
Exchange index ... 76.6 (-0.6)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 ..... 2831.3 (-38.7)
Dow Jones ... 3425.39 (-12.15)*
Nikkei Avge 17022.27 (-259.46)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month interbank 6⅛-6⅛%
US Federal Funds 2¹⁵/₁₆%*
3-month Treas Bills 2.93-2.91%*
Long Bond 7.21%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£/$	1.4305*	£/$	1.4290
$/DM	1.6525*	£/DM	2.3629
$/SWfr	1.5285*	£/SWfr	2.1871
$/Ffr	5.5920*	£/Ffr	8.0170
$/Yen	121.35*	£/Yen	173.40
£/SDR	1.0558	£/ECU	1.2142

London Forex market close

GOLD

London Fixing ($):
AM 327.75 ..... PM 328.05
Close 328.40-328.90
New York:
Comex 329.25-329.75*

RETAIL PRICES

RPI ..... 139.2 December (2.6%)
* Denotes midday trading price

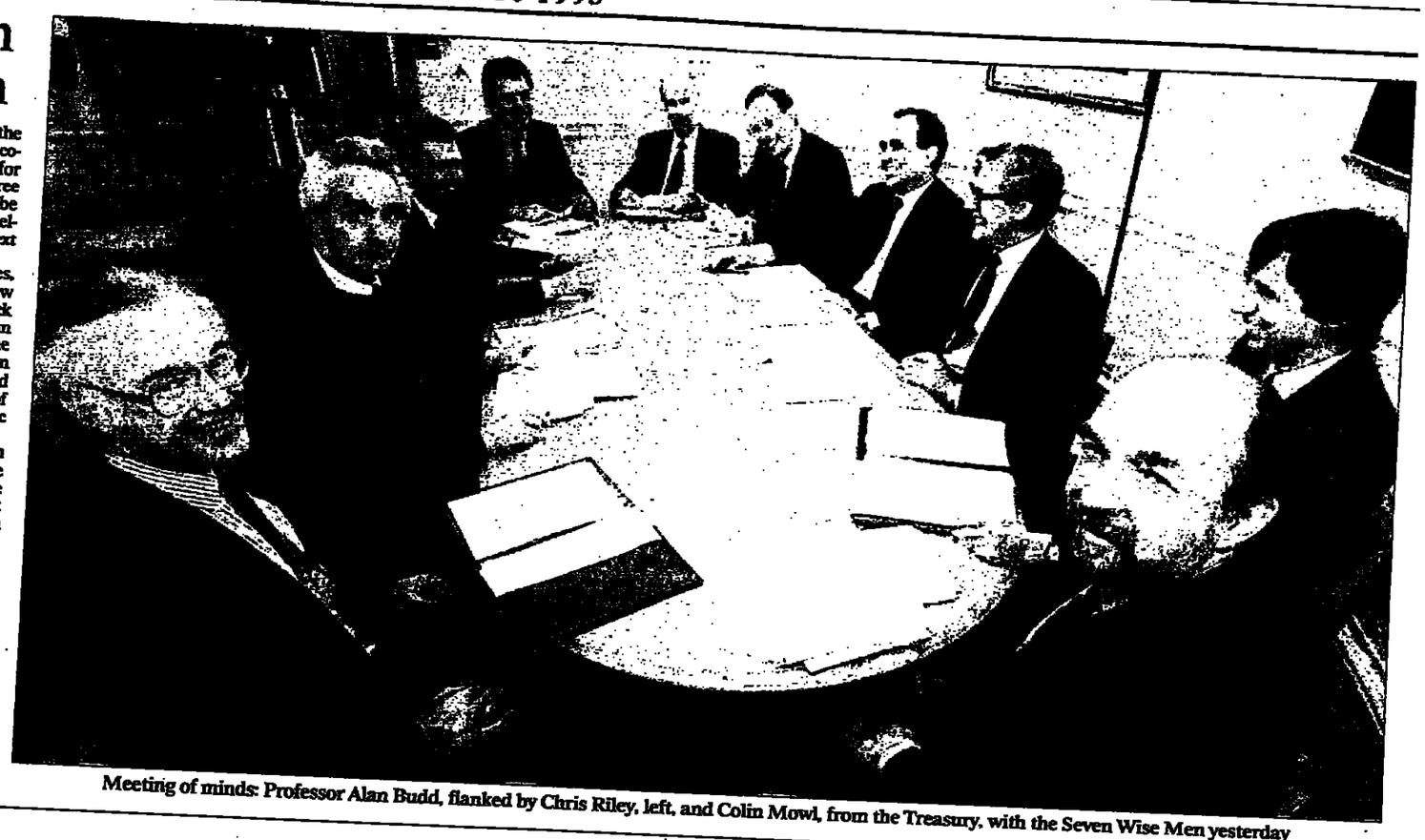
The wise men do not rush in

The Seven Wise Men appointed to the government's independent panel of economic forecasters met at the Treasury for the first time yesterday to discuss and agree a report on the economy that will be handed to Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, on February 18 and published the next day (Janet Bush writes).

The seven, Wynne Godley, Gavyn Davies, Tim Congdon, Andrew Britton, Andrew Sentance, David Currie and Patrick Minford, convened in the office of Alan Budd, chief economic adviser to the Treasury, at 2pm, broke for tea at 4.30 pm and ended at 7.15pm. It had been expected to be a lengthy meeting because of substantial disagreements on economic policy.

The men are divided on tax policy, with Professor Tim Congdon, at one end of the spectrum, arguing for big tax rises in the March Budget and Professor Patrick Minford, at the other, urging medium-term tax cuts. There is more consensus on interest rates, with five thought to be generally in favour of even lower rates to ensure a healthy recovery and two now urging a wait-and-see attitude since base rates were cut to 6 per cent.

On the table were seven separate papers, outlining a short- and medium-term view on the economy and policy recommendations. One paper contained six pages of algebra, another was titled "One Wise Man's View". Accompanying these was a table of forecasts for the next three years compiled from Treasury reports.



Meeting of minds: Professor Alan Budd, flanked by Chris Riley, left, and Colin Mowl, from the Treasury, with the Seven Wise Men yesterday

DAF rescue could save some UK jobs

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

■ **Dutch and Belgian state aid looks likely to save half the jobs at the Leyland DAF plant in Lancashire if negotiations between the two sets of receivers are successful**

ADMINISTRATORS to Leyland DAF are negotiating the possible sale of the company's lorry plant in Lancashire to the proposed new DAF company which would be jointly funded by the Dutch government and the Flemish state government in Belgium.

Although little more than 1,000 of the 2,200 jobs at the Leyland plant might be saved, the rescue of a British factory by foreign state funds would provide ammunition for Opposition MPs and for trade union members disappointed at the trade and industry department's refusal to provide finance.

Union leaders last night met Michael Heseltine, the president of the board of trade, to press for government funds to assist a restructuring. The department has been in close touch with the governments of both Holland and Belgium about efforts to rescue the Dutch parent company.

After discussions with Dutch ministers, Robin Cook, the Opposition industry spokesman, said the Dutch government was prepared to take a stake in DAF to ensure its survival and that there was a "compelling case" for participation by the British government. After five years of joint ownership, operations at the light and medium truck plant in Britain and the heavy truck plant at Eindhoven, Holland, are closely integrated.

The Dutch administrators, Louis Deterink and Friso Meeter, have raised the possibility of the new DAF company absorbing part of the UK operations. In a letter to workers at the British plants yesterday, John Talbot and Murdoch McKillop, of Arthur Andersen, said they "had an open mind about this, and will be working with the Dutch administrators to see whether the New DAF option is attractive".

Under plans being drawn up in Holland, a £167 million restructuring package is envisaged; the Dutch government would take a 40 per cent stake in a slimmed-down DAF making lorries only. The Flemish state government would also hold a stake, and financial backing would be provided by ABN/Amro, the Dutch bank.

The van plant in Birmingham, where 2,000 are employed, would not be needed, although it supplies parts for the lorries. Sources close to the administrators acknowledge that the best hope for the factory may be a management buyout. The Albion axles plant in Glasgow, where 550 are employed, is also likely to be sold separately.

The administrators are examining ways in which a separately owned Leyland truck company might co-operate with DAF. Another option might be a takeover of the Lancashire plant by Paccar, the profitable American truck maker that tried to buy Leyland Trucks in 1987.

Mr Heseltine pledged last night that the government would do "everything it properly could" to save as many jobs as possible.

Parliament, page 6

Charter finalises JM stake sale

BY COLIN CAMPBELL, MINING CORRESPONDENT

CHARTER Consolidated has finalised the sale of its entire 38.4 per cent stake in Johnson Matthey, the precious metals group, for an overall consideration of £342 million.

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, the South African mining house with direct platinum interests, is buying 10 per cent. Minorco, the natural resources group controlled by Anglo American/De Beers, buys a further 10 per cent, and 18.4 per cent was placed in the market yesterday.

Jeffrey Herbert, Charter's chief executive, said JCI "came knocking on our door". Minorco joined the talks later. Anti-trust authorities in Brussels and America had no objection to the share change. JCI will pay an initial £48.6 million and make a deferred payment in three years of the £48.6 million balance. Minorco is paying £90.6 million cash on completion, which is expected in March.

Market report, page 22
Platinum shuffle, page 23

Import price rises hit shares

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

SHARE prices tumbled and the gilt-edged market rocked back on the defensive on evidence of a sharp increase in import prices in January. Concern about the future inflationary impact of sterling's sharp devaluation was also underlined by another set of record lows for the pound.

The pound hit record lows against the mark and the yen and another new six-year low against the dollar in early trading yesterday, only recovering limited ground by the end of the day. Gilts were quoted about a ½ point lower in late trading.

In equities, a wave of profit-taking depressed share prices, with the FT-SE 100 index ending down 38.7 points at 2,831.3, as the City became increasingly concerned by inflation and convinced that another rights issue is on the way. Producer input prices jumped 1.5 per cent between December and January, much larger than the 0.5 per cent rise generally expected in the City, giving an annual rise of 7.2 per cent. Input prices had risen by 5.4 per cent in December year-on-year.

Output prices, those charged at the factory gate, rose by 0.8 per cent in January, giving an annualised increase of 3.5 per cent, unchanged from December. However, excluding food, drink and tobacco, which are regarded as among the more erratic items, output prices were up 0.9 per cent. That meant an annualised increase of 2.7 per cent in January, compared with 2.4 per cent in December year-on-year.

The financial markets reacted negatively, believing the data may weaken the argument for another base rate cut in the short-term. However, the government's view was unclear, with officials continuing to argue that inflationary pressures remain subdued.

Anthony Nelson, economic secretary, said output price inflation remained low and input prices had risen at a slower rate in December and January than they had between August and November.

Sterling's trade weighted index closed at another record low of 76.6, after 76.2, compared with 77.2 on Monday night.

Stock market, page 22
Tempus, page 23

THE SWISS KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT MONEY

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Blaming Aunt Sally for the job queues



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

When unemployment soars, a politician's instinct is to review costly benefits, think up schemes that might cut the figures and cast around for ways to imply that benefit claimants are to blame rather than government economic policy. No wonder there has been such a spate of vision and rethink before next week's statistics, which seem certain to show unemployment topping the symbolic three million mark.

These reviews should have taken place three years ago, when 1.6 million people were unemployed at the height of an unsustainable boom fed by what used to be called full employment policies. That astonishing figure, rather than the recession, lies at the heart of the unemployment problem crippling the nation's finances. It compares with about 400,000 out of work at the height of the 1972-3 boom and even fewer in earlier postwar periods.

The underlying long-term rise in unemployment is breathtaking. Taking the tops of the booms, 1.7 per cent of those available for work were wholly unemployed in 1973, rising to 3.9 per cent in 1979 and 5.4 per cent in 1990. That increase, which has little to do with economic cycles, has probably been costing taxpayers more than £10 billion every year. The trend has continued in recession and will fur the pipeline of future growth.

Who is to blame? Surely not the sponging work-shy. They are always with us but were with us in almost equal and modest numbers 20 years ago, at the height of what was subsequently damned as welfare feather-bedding. In a purely statistical sense, Britain's women are "to blame". Over the past three cycles, the pattern has been the same, partly reflecting the decline of traditional manufacturing industries. In the booms, most of the extra jobs have been filled by women. In the recessions, men have lost jobs at a far steeper rate. Between the 1979 and 1990 peaks, about 1.2 million extra women gained paid employment while men lost about 1.4 million jobs, though some became self-employed. While more women were joining the workforce, however, men were not leaving it, so the numbers of unemployed swelled to ridiculous proportions. The most desperate politician would not target half the electorate as the scapegoat for unemployment. Women have not elbowed men out of the job queue. Much of the demand for industry has been for part-time work that women have been willing to supply. Nor is such a deep social trend, which involves anything from changing patterns of marriage to the incessant message that the average family should aspire to the lifestyle of the super-rich, directly the fault of government.

Demands for full employment and the right to work assume in some way that the workforce is static or changes only with population trends. Why should Say's law — that supply creates its own demand — apply uniquely in the labour market? If wages fell, even more people would be forced to seek work to maintain their families.

The prospect of two million unhappy folk drawing unemployment benefit when the economy is next in full swing should, however, focus Treasury minds. There are plenty of things government can do to encourage demand or discourage supply of labour. They will, at the least, require tax and benefit systems to be rethought and recast. A recovery based on cheap money and high personal taxes is guaranteed to make even more men and women lose their jobs to machines. To redress the balance and raise long-term demand for labour, employers' national insurance contributions will have to be shifted to other taxes. To reduce supply, state pensions should allow early retirement on the neutral basis recommended by Britain's actuaries.

The antediluvian unemployment benefit system must also be swept away. It is geared to men losing a full-time job and trying to find a new one and cannot cope with anything else. The unemployed are positively discouraged from seeking part-time work. Anyone who can cope with the forms and calculations needed if they do half a day's work for one employer and a few odd jobs on their own should be administering the system. That is crazy. Taxpayers should demand a tax and benefit system that fits the way things are.

Watchdog says acrimony achieves results

Complaints spark fresh gas row

■ **Sir James McKinnon's decision to step down creates a chance to recast the gas regulator's role now that independents have won a large slice of the contract market**

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

A DISPUTE over the number of complaints by gas customers threatens to distract attention from a call by Sir James McKinnon, head of Ofgas, to resist the integration of Britain's system of utility regulation.

British Gas challenged near-doubled levels of complaints recorded by Ofgas in its annual report yesterday. The company said only 506 complaints were referred to British Gas by Ofgas in 1992, compared with 1,624 listed by the regulator.

"We suspect many of these were from people seeking information rather than complaining," said Norman Blacker, managing director of British Gas's UK supply business. The company was cleared of blame for almost half the complaints, Mr Blacker said.

Sir James, who is due to retire in the autumn, replied: "Those figures must have been processed by British Gas spin doctors." He stood by Ofgas's record, which showed that 521 complaints had been passed to the British Gas head office for resolution, and a further 403 had been forwarded to British Gas regional customer relations managers. Other complaints had been resolved by Ofgas and other bodies, including the Gas Consumers Council (GCC).

James Cooper, chairman of the GCC, said complaints to his organisation had fallen 13 per cent in 1992 to 19,281. He said British Gas had become better at dealing with complaints, and that the rise recorded by Ofgas was a measure of its success and heightened public profile.

The effects of a regulatory regime in which each director-general exercises wide discretionary powers over a single industry are being questioned increasingly. The parliamentary trade and industry committee, in last month's report on the coal industry, called for the powers of regulators to be reviewed, with the aim of securing more government control over their work.

But Sir James said the use of a single regulator focused on the gas industry had served the customer well. Without the "tension and acrimony" that have sometimes characterised relations between Ofgas and the company, "we might not have the results we have achieved", he said.

Sir James's decision to step down this autumn will create an opportunity for ministers to recast the gas regulator's role, should they so choose. Although Sir James's five-year contract does not expire until August next year, he is anxious that someone else should see through implementation of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission recommendations into reform of gas supply, expected in June, from start to finish.



Fighting to the last: Sir James McKinnon, regulator of the gas industry

Gas is already on the way to becoming Britain's first competitive utility industry. Rivals have now won 40 to 45 per cent of the firm contract market among industrial users, Ofgas said. Since the threshold of competition was lowered from 25,000 therms to 2,500 therms last August, rivals have seized up to 15 per cent of that sector too.

But Ofgas is now examining a series of complaints relating to the extension of competition. Top of the list are schools and local authorities, which say they have been prevented from taking advantage of price cuts of up to 10p a therm because British Gas will not allow several buildings to be supplied under a single contract even where they have a common owner.

Tempus, page 23

P&P opts for direct sales as prices fall

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

P&P, one of Britain's biggest distributors of personal computers, is to stop selling low-cost products through dealers because of rising competition and falling prices. Instead, it will concentrate on selling complete packages direct to customers.

The cost of the withdrawal from low margin products in Britain and Belgium over the next year will be £8.93 million, taken as an extraordinary charge in the results for the year to end-November. However, the group hopes to avoid further redundancies.

The figures show pre-tax profits up from £711,000 to £2.01 million, helped by the non-repetition of a £1.98 million stock write-down last time but hindered by an interest bill up from £335,000 to £1.13 million.

The dividend is sharply reduced, a final of 0.7p and a total of 1.4p contrasting with a total of 4.33p last time.

David Southworth, the managing director, said sales, maintained at £223 million, reflected a strong performance in the face of falling unit prices, while operating expenses had been cut by 10 per cent.

P&P will operate in the high margin services sector, selling expertise as well as computer systems, instead of making losses in the low margin product distribution sector.

The shares advanced 3p to 42p on the news.

Panmure Gordon, the group's stockbroker, is forecasting £2.8 million pre-tax profit for the current year.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Aberdeen Petroleum bids for Brabant

ABERDEEN Petroleum has announced an all-share offer worth £7.27 million for Brabant Resources, a fellow oil and gas exploration and production company. Aberdeen is offering 35 new shares for every ten Brabant shares and claims to speak for 21.39 per cent of Brabant's share capital. The company said there was a need to consolidate the smaller quoted UK oil and gas companies through mergers and acquisitions.

If it wins the bid, Aberdeen promises to cut back on Brabant's planned exploration programme and concentrate instead on obtaining new oil and gas reserves through acquisitions and mergers. Aberdeen bought 9.99 per cent of Brabant in November last year. It said it had also received acceptance of its share offer from the Titan group for Titan's 11.4 per cent stake in Brabant, provided no higher bid for Brabant was received. Tempus, page 23

Powerscreen disposal

POWERSCREEN International, the manufacturer of waste processing and crushing equipment, has sold Guzzler Manufacturing to Federal Signal Corporation for $24 million. It has also sold a contingency payment of 10 per cent of accumulated turnover of $84 million over the next three years. Powerscreen acquired Guzzler, based in Birmingham, Alabama, for £9.2 million in August 1990. Guzzler makes truck-mounted power vacuum waste removal units.

Hunting sells business

HUNTING, the defence and aircraft equipment group, has sold its specialised protective coatings business, including the Hammerite metal coating branding, to Williams Holdings for £19 million. The disposal enables Hunting to reduce debt and to focus its resources on the defence, aviation and oil divisions. The consideration, payable in cash, is £10.4 million plus the net asset value of the businesses being sold on completion. This was stated at £8.5 million on December 31.

BAA deal with Fedex

BAA, the British airports operator, is to acquire the cargo handling facilities of Federal Express Corp (Fedex) at Heathrow for about £5 million. BAA said that as part of the deal it has sold 5 per cent of its SkyCare Cargo subsidiary to Fedex in a step towards setting up a consortium at the airport. SkyCare will take over a number of Fedex contracts. The move follows Fedex's decision to transfer its UK express freight service to Stansted airport.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
ABBEY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth BH8 8AL. 0345 717373				
Masterrust	110.10	117.70	+ 1.00	1.60
International	81.39	86.58	+ 1.02	1.18
Dividend Gth	55.52	59.06†	- 0.40	5.08
Global Gth Sec	59.63	63.43	- 0.15	3.14
Ethical Growth	63.65	67.71	- 0.15	2.85
High Inc Equity	148.30	157.70†	- 0.80	5.39
Worldwide Bond	268.40	284.50†	+ 4.40	4.39
Gilts Fixed Int	128.60	136.40†	...	6.96
ABTRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 10 Queens Terrace, Aberdeen AB9 1QJ. 0224 633070. Dealing: 0800 833580. 30 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 7QQ. 071 374 6801				
Amer Inc Gth	44.90	47.41	+ 0.35	1.78
European	79.22	83.97†	+ 0.34	...
European Inc	78.88	83.70	+ 0.41	1.60
Exempt	880.40	908.50†	-14.00	3.37
Extra Inc	41.52	45.06	- 0.53	5.58
F East Emerg Ec	80.13	86.34	+ 1.07	0.74
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TRUSTS Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL. 0793 514514. Dealing: 0793 610366				
High Inc	367.10	392.40	- 6.10	4.42
Equity Inc	203.50	217.50†	- 3.40	4.23
High Yield	227.10	242.70	- 3.30	4.28
Balanced	618.50	661.10	- 9.40	2.87
American Inc	48.71	52.07†	+ 0.21	3.28
Wld Asset Val	37.48	40.06	...	1.92
Japan	143.60	152.70†	+ 2.60	0.01
Secs of Am	436.10	466.50	- 1.90	0.35
AXA EQUITY & LAW St George's Hse, Corporation St, Coventry CV1 1QD. 0203 553231				
UK Growth Acc	304.90	324.40	- 3.90	3.04
-do- Inc	218.50	232.50	- 2.90	3.04
Higher Inc Acc	544.00	578.80	- 5.80	4.21
-do- Inc	335.60	357.10	- 3.60	4.21
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	171.80	181.30	- 0.40	6.64
-do- Inc	92.54	97.73	- 0.19	6.64
Nth America	282.00	300.00	+ 1.20	...
Far East	253.50	269.70	+ 3.50	0.38
Europe	214.80	228.60	+ 0.20	1.29
General Inc	413.90	440.40	- 4.00	2.70
-do- Acc	450.80	479.60	- 4.30	2.70
Brit Excell	62.13	66.10	- 0.83	3.09
Brit Fndmntls Inc	63.78	67.86	- 0.73	5.25
Brit Fndmntls Acc	81.25	86.44	- 0.94	5.25
Global Opps	69.04	73.45	+ 0.42	...
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD Gredley Hse, 1-11 Broadway, London E15. 081 534 5544				
Capital	105.20	112.50†	- 0.80	3.31
Euro Gth Inc	113.10	119.80	+ 0.70	1.21
Extra Inc	102.80	109.90	- 0.40	5.46
General	235.50	251.90	- 1.30	3.43
Gilt Fxd Inc	57.50	59.49	+ 0.01	8.73
Income	461.10	493.20†	- 2.10	4.92
BARING FUND MANAGERS PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ. 081 658 9002				
American Gth	98.56	104.60	- 0.20	0.10
Amer Smllr Cos	130.10	138.90	+ 0.40	...
Australia	...	...	...	...
Convertibles	51.30	54.89	- 0.09	7.40
Eastern	175.00	188.60	+ 1.30	1.70
Equity Income	76.21	81.07	- 0.80	6.80
European Gth	223.70	237.90	+ 0.80	1.60
Euro Smllr Cos	149.70	159.80	+ 1.30	2.00
Exempt	81.00	83.17†	...	3.90
German Growth	53.05	56.65	- 0.18	0.80
Global Growth	108.50	116.00	+ 0.40	...
Japan Growth	159.40	170.90†	+ 2.80	...
Japan Sunrise	134.90	144.00	+ 3.40	...
Portfolio	115.20	123.20	- 0.70	3.40
-do- Acc	203.50	217.90	- 1.10	3.40
UK Growth	74.59	79.35	+ 0.30	3.20
UK Smaller Cos	75.13	80.35	+ 0.08	2.00
Select Managers	62.24	66.71	- 0.14	2.10
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MANAGERS LTD 190 West George St, Glasgow G2 2PA. 041 332 3132				
Balan Gth Acc	101.20	108.24	- 0.98	2.39
-do- Inc	92.69	99.14	- 0.90	2.39
Global Bond	29.76	31.57	+ 0.23	5.78
High Yield Acc	50.56	54.08	- 0.47	4.52
-do- Inc	37.06	39.64†	- 0.35	4.52
Smlr Cos Acc	83.41	89.21	- 0.16	1.81
-do- Inc	77.14	82.50	- 0.15	1.81
Amer Gth Acc	60.98	65.22	+ 0.32	0.29
-do- Inc	59.85	64.01†	+ 0.32	0.29
Euro Gth Acc	96.69	103.41	+ 0.40	1.78
-do- Inc	95.80	102.46	+ 0.39	1.78
Mngd P folio	34.29	36.68	- 0.01	1.54
Pacific Growth	87.53	93.62	- 1.10	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	85.48	91.42	+ 0.03	1.09
BROWN SHIPLEY 9/17 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath. 0444 458144				
Financial	111.10	118.30	- 0.90	3.76
Smaller Cos Acc	257.30	274.10	- 2.00	...
Smaller Cos Inc	150.70	160.50	- 1.20	1.43
High Inc	72.83	76.86	- 0.31	7.18
Income	124.00	132.10	- 0.70	4.39
Mngd P folio Inc	91.94	97.92†	+ 0.51	2.12
-do- Acc	172.10	183.30	+ 0.90	...
North American	114.60	122.10†	+ 1.70	0.18
Orient	99.42	107.00	+ 1.10	...
Recovery	36.28	39.00	...	3.03
German	41.98	45.02	+ 0.97	0.09
Intl Growth	33.64	35.83	+ 0.39	0.22
European Inc	22.83	24.58	+ 0.43	0.46
Conv General	19.34	20.69	+ 0.01	8.06
BUCKMASTER MANAGEMENT Beaufort House, 15 St Botolph Street, London EC3A 7JJ. 071 247 4542. Dealing: 071 247 7474				
Fellowship Tst	63.30	67.34	- 0.23	1.19
-do- Acc	70.58	75.09	- 0.25	1.19
Income Fund 5	205.50	218.70	- 2.80	4.10
-do- Acc	467.40	497.30	- 6.30	4.10
Inv Portfolio	66.15	68.55†	- 0.41	2.17
-do- Acc	74.69	77.40	- 0.47	2.17
Smaller Cos	115.90	123.30†	- 0.10	2.14
-do- Acc	139.30	148.20	...	2.14
High Inc P folio	57.48	59.57	- 0.89	4.89
BURRAGE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL. 071 480 7216				
Sht Gilt Fxd Int	69.31	70.24	+ 0.02	5.92
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH. 061 837 5060				
Environ	133.90	142.50	...	1.69
UK Growth	141.60	150.70†	- 1.00	2.45
UK Income	121.50	129.30	- 0.70	4.58
CANNON FUND MANAGERS 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB. 081 902 8876				
SE Asia	79.51	85.04	+ 0.97	1.09
Growth	43.70	46.74†	- 0.42	3.06
Income	51.70	55.29†	- 0.40	4.30
Far East	41.46	44.34	+ 0.63	0.36
North American	87.80	94.41	- 1.27	0.01
Global	84.22	90.08	+ 0.07	0.62
European	66.70	71.34	+ 0.72	1.31
Japan	87.40	93.47	+ 1.48	0.01
Intl Currency Bd	59.59	63.11	+ 0.80	5.00
UK Cap Gwth	76.58	81.91†	- 0.83	2.34

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 35 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF. Enquiries: 061 236 5685. Dealing: 061 236 5362				
Capability Trusts				
American Gen	138.00	146.70	+ 0.70	0.06
-do- Acc	146.70	156.00	+ 0.70	0.06
European	66.57	70.48	- 0.03	1.07
-do- Acc	69.00	73.05	- 0.04	1.07
Far East Gen	48.73	51.85	+ 0.46	...
-do- Acc	48.73	51.85	+ 0.46	...
Glenfriars	243.70	259.30	+ 0.80	1.31
-do- Acc	273.80	291.30	+ 1.00	1.31
Growth	369.00	394.70	- 4.10	2.58
-do- Acc	627.40	671.10	- 7.00	2.58
Income Growth	360.30	383.30†	- 1.90	4.13
-do- Acc	479.00	509.60	- 2.50	4.13
Master Portfolio	9307.0	9618.0†	-51.00	2.86
-do- Acc	10719.0	11078.0	-58.00	2.86
Special Sits	83.97	89.34†	- 0.86	2.55
-do- Acc	98.29	104.57	- 1.00	2.55
Exempt Fund				
High Yield	1161.0	1197.0	-13.00	4.67
-do- Acc	1344.0	1386.0	-15.00	4.67
CAPEL (JAMES) UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU. 071 955 5050. Dealing: 071 955 5055				
American Index	201.20	214.20†	+ 1.80	1.70
Capital	518.40	553.20	- 7.60	2.54
Eurotrack 100	129.50	137.70†	+ 0.20	1.74
Euro Gth	79.44	84.55†	- 0.30	1.86
Far East Growth	79.78	85.14†	+ 0.96	0.50
Global Bond	23.23	24.49†	+ 0.16	6.49
Hong Kong	68.57	73.18	+ 0.17	0.69
Income	491.80	524.80	- 7.50	4.80
Intl Growth	72.53	77.40	+ 0.44	1.05
Japan Growth	207.80	221.70	+ 2.30	...
Japan Smllr Cos	26.57	28.35†	+ 0.58	...
Japan Index	61.47	65.60†	+ 1.15	0.31
Nth American	437.80	467.20	+ 2.50	0.96
S pore Mly Gth	49.82	53.16	- 0.49	...
The Footsie Fd	105.20	111.00	- 1.78	2.57
Tiger Index	135.50	144.60	+ 1.30	0.98
Tride Index	99.89	106.60	- 0.50	2.87
UK Index	119.30	127.30†	- 1.80	3.38
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH. 071 606 0708				
American P folio	86.08	91.91	...	1.00
European P folio	71.28	75.68	...	1.38
Japanese P folio	49.85	52.89	+ 0.97	...
Pacific P folio	89.31	96.04	+ 1.87	2.43
Cazenove P folio	68.17	72.91†	...	3.00
UK Income Gth	61.27	65.64	...	5.00
CENTRAL BOARD OF FINANCE OF CHURCH OF ENGLAND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Investment Fd	585.00	591.20	+ 4.60	5.04
Fixed Int.	153.10	153.85	+ 1.15	9.50
Deposit	6.40	6.56	...	...
CHARITIES OFFICIAL INVESTMENT FUND 2 Fore Street, London EC2Y 5AQ. 071 588 1815				
Income	575.06	577.74	- 1.82	5.18
-do- Acc	2223.3	2229.1	+13.51	...
Deposit	6.20	6.35	...	...
Fxd IntInc	124.60	124.64	+ 0.36	9.31
-do- Acc	162.05	162.22	+ 2.05	...
CITY FINANCIAL UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge, SE1. 071 407 5966				
City Fin Assets	62.06	65.33	+ 3.27	2.48
Beckman Intl	79.58	84.81	+ 2.94	3.37
Friars Hse Inc	174.05	186.23†	+ 4.94	6.62
Friars Hse Cap	241.47	258.37	+ 5.69	2.99
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MANAGERS Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ. Enquiries: 081 681 2222. Dealing: 081 686 9818				
American Gth	113.20	120.43	+ 0.65	...
European Gth	92.96	98.89	- 0.04	1.33
Far East Gth	92.94	98.87	+ 0.94	0.35
Japan Gth Acc	33.44	35.57	+ 0.40	...
Managed	60.00	63.83	- 0.27	3.04
-do- Acc	72.46	77.09	- 0.32	3.04
Mthly Inc Plus	46.52	49.49	- 0.08	8.34
Smaller Cos	32.34	34.40†	- 0.70	2.13
-do- Acc	36.40	38.72	- 0.79	2.13
UK General	66.67	70.93	- 0.93	2.81
-do- Acc	79.94	85.04	- 1.10	2.81
Wwide Bd	65.20	69.36	+ 0.53	6.18
-do- Acc	81.70	86.92	+ 0.67	6.18
Wwide Sp Sits	53.64	57.37†	+ 0.36	0.26
-do- Acc	55.76	59.64	+ 0.37	0.26
Quilter General	118.54	126.11	- 1.71	2.58
-do- Acc	130.47	138.80	- 1.89	2.58
Quilter Income	90.20	95.96†	- 1.06	3.88
-do- Acc	111.17	118.27	- 1.31	3.88
Quilter Intl	126.09	134.14	+ 2.19	0.42
-do- Acc	127.83	135.99	+ 2.22	0.42
Quilter UK Spec	68.39	72.76	- 0.78	2.54
-do- Acc	90.48	96.26	- 1.02	2.54
CU Prestige Fund Management				
Fin Property	96.76	102.94	- 1.50	1.90
Fixed Conv	39.62	42.15†	- 0.05	8.38
-do- Acc	103.37	109.97	- 0.14	8.38
Equity Inc	137.48	146.26†	- 2.94	4.23
-do- Acc	442.06	470.28	- 9.46	4.23
High Yield	113.87	121.14	- 1.18	5.31
-do- Acc	426.20	453.40	- 4.39	5.31
Preference	46.71	49.69†	...	7.99
-do- Acc	236.32	251.40	+ 0.01	7.99
PPT Europe	147.69	157.12	- 0.18	0.62
PPT Global Bnd	82.70	87.98	+ 0.61	4.95
PPT Gold Com	49.89	53.07	+ 0.75	...
PPT Thai	58.34	62.06	+ 0.54	...
PPT Hong Kong	91.32	97.15	+ 1.05	0.52
PPT Japan	92.35	98.24	+ 1.17	...
PPT N Amer	158.02	168.11	+ 1.28	...
PPT S'pore Mly	100.25	106.65	+ 0.45	...
PPT UK	112.70	119.89	- 1.53	1.55
PPT Cash	90.92	90.92	+ 0.01	6.30
EAGLE STAR UNIT MANAGERS Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ. 0242 577 555				
Oriental Op Acc	74.60	79.36	+ 1.73	1.00
Japanese Acc	48.33	51.42	+ 1.17	...
UK Balncd Inc	122.10	129.90	- 1.40	2.58
-do- Acc	142.60	151.70	- 1.60	2.58
UK Growth Acc	202.10	215.00	- 1.00	2.25
UK High Inc	129.90	138.20	- 0.90	6.87
-do- Acc	153.40	163.20	- 1.00	6.87
N America Acc	120.30	128.00	+ 1.10	0.30
European Acc	151.00	160.60	+ 1.10	0.44
UK Pref F/I Inc	59.54	63.20	- 0.08	8.94
-do- Acc	96.10	102.00	- 0.10	8.94
Intl Sp Sits Acc	46.26	49.21	+ 0.65	0.23
Environmntl Opp	70.97	75.50	- 0.27	1.47
EDINBURGH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Donaldson House, 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5HD. 031 313 1000				
American	118.00	125.30	- 0.90	...
UK Smlr Cos	177.30	188.40	- 1.20	1.33
Eurofund	37.46	39.60	...	1.01
Mngd Exempt	163.80	170.70	+ 2.70	3.08
Growth Inc	207.40	220.40†	- 3.00	4.08
High Dist	136.00	144.50	- 1.50	5.99
International	312.20	331.70	- 1.40	0.98
Intl Income	79.78	85.17†	+ 0.06	3.05
Pacific	56.27	59.79	+ 0.68	0.50
Smllr Jap Cos	54.55	57.96	+ 1.26	...
Tokyo	163.80	174.30	+ 2.80	...

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan Exempt	90.74	93.24	+ 7.55	0.54
Sm Jap Exempt	437.40	449.40	+27.40	0.12
ENDURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU. 071 373 7261				
Endurance	167.70	178.40	...	1.06
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks, HP21 7QW. 0296 431480				
Pelican	102.39	107.78	- 1.55	3.68
High Income	117.14	123.30	- 1.71	5.14
Tst of Inv Tsts	139.21	146.54†	- 1.02	2.35
Special Sits	82.18	86.51	- 1.67	3.38
North American	110.90	116.74	- 0.46	1.06
Far Eastern	209.43	220.45	+ 1.91	1.60
Intl Growth	89.26	93.96	- 0.03	1.54
European	63.31	66.64	+ 0.83	2.19
Smaller Cos	68.27	71.86	- 0.65	2.39
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVICES LTD Oakhill House, 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ. 0800 414181				
America	227.80	241.70	+ 1.60	...
Cash Unit Tst	100.00	100.00	...	6.20
European Tst	108.60	115.50	+ 0.60	...
FOREIGN & COLONIAL 8th Floor, Exchange Hse, Primrose St, London EC2A 2NY. 071 628 8000				
European	92.84	98.24	+ 0.28	0.66
Far Eastern	114.80	122.90	+ 2.00	...
Oseas Income	88.47	94.77	+ 0.75	2.64
UK Growth	89.51	95.73†	- 1.01	1.39
UK Income	100.60	107.60	- 0.90	3.93
US Smaller Cos	237.20	253.70	+ 2.20	...
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MANAGEMENT 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT. 071 374 4100				
Am Smllr Co	450.60	481.80	+ 2.80	...
-do- Acc	460.30	492.20	+ 2.90	...
Capital	281.70	299.60	- 0.40	2.24
-do- Acc	388.90	413.60	- 0.60	2.24
Contl Smllr Cos	45.33	48.78	+ 0.64	1.40
-do- Acc	46.91	50.47	+ 0.66	1.40
Convertible	107.30	114.10†	- 0.30	6.09
-do- Acc	198.80	211.40†	- 0.50	6.09
European	97.14	103.80	+ 0.90	0.84
-do- Acc	100.40	107.30	+ 1.00	0.84
Extra Income	279.00	296.70†	- 2.20	4.49
-do- Acc	390.70	415.50†	- 2.90	4.49
Financial	107.40	115.40	+ 0.20	0.54
-do- Acc	111.80	120.10	+ 0.20	0.54
Health Fund Inc	130.80	139.70	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc	130.80	139.70	+ 0.60	...
Income Tst	173.00	184.00	- 1.40	4.13
-do- Acc	241.10	256.40	- 1.90	4.13
Intl Growth	310.20	331.30	+ 1.60	...
-do- Acc	344.50	367.90	+ 1.80	...
Japan Gen	138.80	148.60	+ 2.60	...
-do- Acc	140.20	150.10	+ 2.60	...
Mngd P folio Inc	89.65	94.36	...	1.06
-do- Acc	92.57	97.44	+ 0.01	1.06
Monthly Income	140.30	149.20	- 0.70	4.61
Recovery	293.10	313.40†	+ 1.90	0.60
-do- Acc	342.30	366.00†	+ 2.20	0.60
Gilt Gth Tst	60.36	62.24	- 0.31	6.97
-do- Acc	75.78	78.13	- 0.27	6.97
FRIENDS PROVIDENT MANAGERS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts, SP1 3SH. Dealing: 0722 411411. Administration: 0722 411622				
Equity Dist	340.36	362.09	- 2.58	3.05
-do- Acc	687.22	731.09	- 5.22	3.05
Euro Gth Dist	103.83	110.46†	+ 0.95	1.04
-do- Acc	106.92	113.75†	+ 0.97	1.04
Fixed Int Dist	129.30	136.77	- 0.17	6.69
-do- Acc	214.62	227.01	- 0.28	6.69
Intl Gth Dist	74.08	78.81	+ 0.90	0.79
-do- Acc	76.63	81.52	+ 0.94	0.79
Nth Amer Dist	176.82	187.47†	+ 2.55	0.63
-do- Acc	191.91	203.47†	+ 2.76	0.63
Pac Basin Dist	218.11	232.03†	+ 3.79	0.34
-do- Acc	221.46	235.60†	+ 3.85	0.34
Stewardship Dist	290.60	309.15	- 0.91	1.92
-do- Acc	343.80	365.75	- 1.07	1.92
Stwd Inc Dist	59.07	62.84†	- 0.14	3.99
-do- Acc	72.47	77.10†	- 0.18	3.99
N Am Stwd Dist	100.06	106.45†	+ 1.64	0.01
-do- Acc	105.86	112.62†	+ 1.76	0.01
GT UNIT MANAGERS 8th Floor, 8 Devonshire Sq, London EC2M 4YJ. 071 283 2575. Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Am Sp Sits	143.10	153.10	- 0.10	...
European	396.90	421.00	- 0.40	0.94
Far East General	193.20	205.60	+ 2.10	0.32
Germany	95.39	101.00	+ 1.20	0.41
Global Assets In	65.81	70.39	+ 0.07	2.18
Global Assets Ac	68.95	73.75	+ 0.07	2.15
Income	108.40	116.00	...	7.27
International	250.70	268.20	+ 0.30	0.98
Intl Income	76.08	81.01	- 0.60	4.55
Japan General	304.70	322.60	+ 6.50	...
Smllr Cos Div	45.01	48.14†	- 0.24	6.30
UK Capital Inc	147.20	157.50†	- 1.80	4.18
-do- Acc	251.80	269.30	- 3.00	4.08
Uk Spec Sits	67.51	72.21	- 0.18	1.69
US General	117.40	124.90	- 0.10	0.10
W wide Spec Sits	113.60	121.50	+ 0.20	0.11
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16/18 Monument Street, London EC3R 8AJ. 071 623 1212. Dealing: 0277 264421. Services: 0800 289 336.				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	41.84	44.75†	- 0.76	1.30
Cash Trust*	127.23	127.23	+ 0.02	5.70
Pract Inv Inc	100.68	107.97	- 0.18	4.10
-do- Acc	214.94	230.50	- 0.38	4.10
UK Smaller Cos	95.95	102.79	- 0.16	1.76
Income Funds				
Preference Share	24.05	25.72†	+ 0.03	8.67
High Inc	29.89	31.97†	- 0.20	5.63
UK Equity Inc	122.02	130.50†	- 1.01	4.34
Global Bond	30.21	31.30	+ 0.23	5.08
International Funds				
Gold Intl	63.85	68.47	+ 1.00	1.71
Frontier Markets	42.19	45.24	+ 0.89	0.29
Global Inc Gth	120.26	128.34	+ 0.66	2.73
UK Intl	108.79	116.35†	- 1.36	1.19
Overseas Funds				
American	134.45	143.54	+ 1.31	0.56
European	81.97	86.95	- 0.14	0.94
Euro Sel Opps	93.22	99.16†	+ 0.09	1.33
American Emerg	80.35	86.17	+ 0.70	...
Hong Kong	100.30	107.56	+ 0.86	2.04
Japan	166.51	177.15	+ 3.08	...
Pacific Growth	138.32	148.33	+ 1.01	0.52
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MANAGEMENT Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 2HR. 071 378 7979. Dealing: 071 588 8526				
Intl Growth	121.01	129.42	- 1.52	0.95
American Gth	125.81	134.56	+ 1.99	0.35
European Gth	68.82	73.60	+ 0.57	0.82
German Horizn	48.12	51.34	+ 0.56	0.92
Japan Gth	63.44	67.85	+ 1.41	...
Pacific Inc	123.99	132.60	+ 2.95	3.22
Pacific Strategy	100.63	107.63	+ 0.62	...
UK Prog Inc	69.35	73.12	- 0.15	6.11
Gt British Cos	47.04	49.58	- 0.30	2.00
UK Small Cos	43.77	46.82	+ 0.11	2.60
GRE UNIT MANAGERS 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE. 071 538 9668.				
Cash	129.90	129.90	...	4.88
Gilt Fixed	118.80	126.00	- 0.20	6.67
Growth Equity	280.30	299.40	- 3.10	2.28
Guardhill	415.90	444.30	- 3.70	2.60

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Income Trust	102.20	109.10	- 0.90	3.88
International	152.60	163.00	+ 2.00	0.31
Japan Trust	103.10	110.10†	+ 2.30	...
Managed	...	...	...	...
Nth American	266.10	283.20	+ 4.30	0.35
Pacific	329.60	352.10	+ 7.10	0.01
Prop Shares	...	...	...	...
Small Cos	...	...	...	...
European	332.90	358.30	+ 3.50	0.64
HALIFAX STANDARD TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 600, Edinburgh EH15 1EW. 0800 838868				
Global Adv Inc	34.05	36.10†	+ 0.10	1.83
-do- Acc	35.65	37.79	+ 0.10	1.83
Inc Adv Inc	29.06	30.81	+ 0.10	4.24
-do- Acc	29.96	31.76	+ 0.10	4.24
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690390				
Canadian	67.55	72.36	+ 1.14	0.59
Equity Income	109.40	116.40	- 0.70	3.81
European	133.80	141.50	+ 1.20	1.46
Intl Situation	72.18	76.79	+ 0.62	...
Japanese	113.10	120.20	+ 2.50	...
North American	107.10	113.60	+ 1.80	0.06
Scandinavian	102.00	107.80	+ 1.00	0.58
Smaller Cos	29.17	31.03†	+ 0.03	2.58
HENDERSON PO Box 2003, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XT. Enquiries: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 234772				
Amer Smaller	96.09	102.76	+ 0.97	...
Asian Enterprise	115.75	124.05	+ 0.96	1.24
Australian	126.34	135.04	+ 2.71	1.42
European	355.30	376.38	+ 0.52	1.19
European Inc	67.34	71.71†	- 0.04	3.39
Euro Sml Co	117.17	124.68	+ 0.73	0.98
Extra Income	249.06	265.14	- 1.97	5.45
Family of Funds	66.94	71.48†	+ 0.20	1.20
Fixed Interest	55.18	59.01	- 0.02	9.41
Global Resour	79.45	85.28†	+ 0.91	1.83
High Inc	268.93	287.47†	- 1.97	4.78
Income Gth	226.48	241.19	- 2.15	3.91
-do- Acc	569.92	606.96	- 5.42	3.91
International	223.20	237.55	+ 0.32	0.94
Japan Spc Sit	186.92	198.82	+ 4.04	...
Japan	161.65	171.82†	+ 2.80	...
N Amer	242.79	258.19†	+ 0.62	0.30
Pacific Smllr Cos	157.74	169.29	+ 2.35	1.31
Pref Gilt	45.29	49.22†	- 0.04	9.80
Smaller Cos Div	152.61	166.34†	+ 0.49	4.49
Special Sits	249.66	267.13	- 1.26	1.48
-do- Acc	382.36	409.11	- 1.94	1.48
Best of British	53.98	57.91	- 0.46	2.34
Spirit of the East	53.06	56.63	+ 0.34	0.75
HILL SAMUEL UT MANAGERS NLA Tower Addiscombe Road, Croydon. 081 686 4355				
British	84.82	90.71	- 1.02	2.34
Capital	149.20	159.50	- 0.90	2.47
Dollar	318.80	340.90	+ 2.70	0.28
European	190.20	203.40	- 0.10	0.57
Far East	222.30	237.70†	+ 3.40	0.65
Financial	630.70	674.50	- 6.20	2.65
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	25.39	26.37†	- 0.01	8.24
High Yield	96.78	103.90	- 0.90	5.30
Income	128.60	137.50	- 1.40	3.63
Intl	205.10	219.30†	+ 1.10	0.51
Japan Tech	55.20	59.03†	+ 0.76	...
Nat Resources	55.05	58.87	+ 1.02	0.56
Security	282.60	302.20	- 2.20	2.20
Smaller Cos	102.20	109.30	- 0.10	1.79
Special Sits	128.00	136.80	- 0.80	2.39
US Smaller Cos	74.96	80.17	- 0.04	...
IBI FUND MANAGERS 36 Queen St, London, EC4R 1BN. 071 489 8673				
Brit O seas	244.00	256.80	- 0.30	1.41
Capital Gwth	101.50	106.80	- 1.10	2.50
Inv Trusts	122.60	129.10	- 0.20	0.73
INVESCO MIM UT MANAGERS 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR. 071 626 3434. Dealing: 0800 010733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Smaller Cos	21.79	23.98†	- 0.09	1.81
Special Features	25.97	27.59	- 0.26	1.63
-do- Acc	30.46	32.36	- 0.31	1.63
General Funds				
UK Growth	50.90	54.60	- 0.54	2.72
Assets Earnings	68.03	72.28†	- 0.76	2.07
do Acc	80.07	85.07†	- 0.90	2.07
Managed Invest	81.15	86.68†	+ 0.28	1.38
Rupert Children	73.42	78.32	- 0.68	1.79
High Income Funds				
Cashbox	50.04	50.04†	...	5.57
Extra Inc	75.73	81.08†	- 0.54	5.38
Gilt	27.35	28.79†	- 0.04	7.21
Income Gth	37.00	39.56	- 0.44	3.80
MIMstar	75.80	77.77	+ 0.06	8.32
Preference	17.73	18.83	- 0.01	7.09
UK Income	297.70	318.50	- 2.60	3.61
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fincl Sec	52.16	55.41	- 0.31	1.71
Property Shares	56.08	59.58	+ 0.27	2.18
Exempt Funds				
Exempt	135.60	142.40	- 2.30	3.77
European Acc	109.40	115.90	+ 0.40	1.91
European Dist	104.20	110.30	- 0.40	1.94
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Gth	51.83	55.12	+ 0.34	1.00
European Perf	105.50	111.80	+ 0.40	1.25
-do- Acc	107.40	113.90	+ 0.40	1.25
Euro Small Cos	19.82	21.11	+ 0.22	0.81
French Growth	66.27	70.48†	+ 0.31	0.66
-do- Acc	70.63	75.12†	+ 0.33	0.65
Hong K/China	60.65	65.22†	+ 0.66	1.62
Intl Growth	48.82	51.87	+ 0.41	1.22
-do- Acc	48.82	51.87	+ 0.41	1.22
Japan Perf	26.56	28.20	+ 0.58	...
Accum Units	26.56	28.20	+ 0.58	...
Japan Smllr Cos	28.23	29.98	+ 0.65	...
Singapore Asean	70.07	75.98	+ 1.32	0.63
-do- Acc	70.51	76.45	+ 1.32	0.63
South East Asia	203.50	219.50	+ 3.50	0.93
US Smllr Cos	114.90	122.00	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	116.10	123.30	+ 0.20	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Inc	81.58	86.87	+ 0.68	2.70
Intl Bond	58.22	58.97	+ 0.40	6.50
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUST LTD 10 Fenchurch Street, London EC3. 071 956 6600. Dealing: 071 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Cash Acc*	68.59	68.93†	+ 0.01	5.74
Extra Income	50.28	53.49	- 0.73	7.20
Gilt Yield	118.00	124.40	- 0.30	8.20
Global Income	187.40	199.40†	+ 0.32	4.29
High Yield	128.20	136.40†	- 2.10	6.40
Smllr Cos Div	43.51	46.29†	- 0.20	5.96
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	93.88	99.87	+ 1.77	...
North American	78.19	83.18	- 0.38	0.42
European	128.80	137.00	+ 0.60	0.87
Euro Special	76.98	81.89	+ 0.93	1.01
General	256.90	273.30†	- 4.70	3.52
Japan	317.10	337.30	+ 5.10	...
Japanese Special	169.60	180.40	+ 4.80	...
Master Acc	210.00	223.40	- 0.90	1.48
Pacific	236.30	251.30	+ 3.30	0.37
Smaller Cos	93.88	99.87	- 0.13	2.31
UK Equity Gth	32.79	34.88†	- 0.52	2.84
LAS UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB. 031 550 5151				
European	71.97	76.56†	+ 0.29	0.72
Extra Income	23.43	24.93†	- 0.21	3.50

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Far East	22.94	24.40	+ 0.51	1.00
Income Gwth	70.86	75.19	- 0.51	3.05
Intl Growth	49.38	52.53	+ 0.58	1.00
Japan	51.56	54.85†	- 1.22	...
Maximum Dist*	100.30	102.30†	- 0.10	8.15
N Amer Equity	42.06	44.74	- 0.45	0.47
UK Equity	83.58	88.91	- 0.54	2.94
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1. 071 407 5966				
Income Gth Inc	51.23	54.50†	- 0.77	4.88
LEGAL & GENERAL UT MANAGERS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood Essex. Enq: 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690395				
Equity Dist	413.40	439.80	- 4.80	3.00
Equity Acc	778.40	828.10	- 9.10	3.00
Equity Income	87.77	93.37†	- 0.91	5.26
European	94.05	100.10†	- 0.29	1.65
Far Eastern	156.90	166.90	+ 3.80	0.35
Fixed Interest	49.52	52.68	- 0.09	8.00
Gilt	89.86	95.29	- 0.12	6.80
Global Growth	62.40	66.38	- 0.60	1.02
Intl Bond	56.84	60.47†	- 0.70	5.40
Japanese	54.93	58.44	+ 1.08	...
Overseas Equity	91.25	97.07	+ 0.94	0.86
Pacific Gth	77.23	82.16	+ 1.89	1.46
North American	144.90	154.10†	+ 1.10	1.10
UK Recovery	73.81	78.52	- 0.57	2.62
UK Smllr Cos	97.20	103.40†	- 0.20	2.04
Worldwide	72.49	77.12	- 0.09	2.67
LLOYDS BANK UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD Mountbatten Hse, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF. 0634 834313				
Balanced	309.90	329.70	- 2.00	3.15
-do- Acc	671.00	713.90	- 4.50	3.15
Contl Euro Gth	50.61	53.28	+ 0.52	1.49
-do- Acc	53.52	56.34	+ 0.54	1.49
Extra Inc	233.80	248.80	+ 2.30	4.23
-do- Acc	568.60	604.90	+ 5.40	4.23
German Gth	99.87	105.20	+ 1.40	0.24
-do- Acc	104.80	110.40	+ 1.50	0.24
Income	438.70	466.80	- 3.00	3.84
-do- Acc	1112.0	1183.0	- 7.00	3.84
Japan Growth	76.26	81.13	+ 1.76	0.01
-do- Acc	76.52	81.41	+ 1.76	0.01
Master Trust	50.76	54.00	+ 0.05	1.39
-do- Acc	55.20	58.73	+ 0.05	1.39
N American Gen	196.00	208.60	+ 0.40	0.01
-do- Acc	226.40	240.90	+ 0.40	0.01
NAm Sm Co Rec	144.30	153.60	+ 1.40	0.01
-do- Acc	147.20	156.70	+ 1.40	0.01
Pacific Basin	199.50	201.60	+ 3.80	0.53
-do- Acc	200.30	213.10	+ 4.10	0.53
Small Cos Rec	286.80	301.90	- 9.30	2.40
-do- Acc	369.90	389.40	-12.00	2.40
UK Growth	77.73	82.70	- 0.40	2.32
-do- Acc	90.64	96.43	- 0.47	2.32
Worldwide Gth	271.00	288.30	+ 3.10	0.27
-do- Acc	399.30	424.80	+ 4.60	0.27
LONDON & MANCHESTER Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 0392 282673				
General	75.58	81.09	- 0.59	3.10
Income	58.50	62.77	- 0.71	6.00
International	55.01	59.02	+ 0.71	0.80
American	62.95	67.54	+ 0.91	0.30
Japan	40.80	43.78	+ 0.95	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	53.15	57.03	- 0.09	2.00
M & G SECURITIES LTD Victoria Rd, Chelmsford CM1 1FB. Customer Services/Unit Dealing: 0245 390390				
American Gen	408.60	431.80†	+ 7.50	0.78
-do- Acc	504.10	532.80	+ 9.30	0.78
American Rec	426.00	451.60	+ 9.30	0.52
-do- Acc	487.40	516.70	+10.60	0.52
Am Sm Co Acc	125.10	132.70	+ 2.10	0.10
Australia Acc	132.00	139.60	+ 3.20	1.73
Capital	603.20	637.90†	+ 0.60	3.21
-do- Acc	665.50	703.80	+ 0.60	3.21
Commodity Acc	377.90	399.60	+ 8.10	1.37
Compnd Gth	784.00	829.10	- 3.70	3.36
Dividend	32.80	35.10	- 0.10	4.74
-do- Acc	127.60	136.60	- 0.50	4.74
Equity Inc	279.60	299.20	- 0.70	3.67
European Div	56.20	60.00†	+ 0.70	5.11
-do- Acc	63.50	67.80	+ 0.80	5.11
European Gen	371.20	392.50†	+ 6.10	1.61
-do- Acc	463.70	490.30	+ 7.60	1.61
Extra Yield	346.00	370.20	- 2.40	5.07
-do- Acc	994.40	1064.0	- 6.90	5.07
Far Eastern	253.00	268.20	+ 5.60	1.55
-do- Acc	331.70	351.70	+ 7.20	1.55
Fund of Inv	481.60	509.30	+ 0.20	2.41
-do- Acc	869.10	919.10	+ 0.40	2.41
General	50.90	53.80†	- 0.10	4.01
-do- Acc	134.00	141.70	- 0.30	4.01
Gilt Fxd Int	60.50	60.50†	- 0.10	9.05
do Acc	149.50	149.70	- 0.10	9.05
Gold	34.30	36.70†	+ 1.00	2.26
-do- Acc	40.10	42.90	+ 1.10	2.26
High Inc	22.90	24.20	- 0.10	5.24
-do- Acc	84.70	89.50	- 0.20	5.34
Intl Growth	65.80	69.80†	+ 1.10	1.10
-do- Acc	113.40	120.30	+ 1.90	1.10
Intl Inc	88.80	94.50	+ 1.50	5.25
Japan Gen Acc	40.50	42.90	+ 1.20	...
Japan Smllr Cos	116.10	122.70	- 3.90	...
Midland	50.00	53.20	- 0.10	4.60
-do- Acc	158.20	168.40	- 0.40	4.60
Recovery	33.40	35.70†	- 0.20	3.50
-do- Acc	52.60	56.20	- 0.20	3.50
Second Gen	56.90	60.20†	- 0.20	3.98
-do- Acc	139.00	147.00	- 0.70	3.98
Smaller Cos	55.20	58.40†	+ 0.20	3.80
-do- Acc	104.50	110.60	+ 0.20	3.80
Trustee	36.20	38.30	- 0.10	4.35
Charibond 3	$109.09	...‡	+ 0.20	9.88
Charifund 2	594.20	600.20†	- 2.30	5.29
Pension ex I	833.70	854.60	- 2.30	4.64
NAACIF Inc 3	144.50	...‡	...	8.00
-do- Acc 3	$1048.2	...	- 0.80	8.00
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD PO Box 410, Chester X. CH99 9QG. 0244 680066				
Inv Port Inc	129.80	138.80†	- 0.43	2.62
-do- Acc	144.20	154.20†	- 0.43	2.62
UK Income	105.30	113.70†	- 0.96	3.34
-do- Acc	118.50	126.70†	- 0.96	3.24
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2ES. 031 229 5252				
Emerg Mkts	75.45	80.69†	+ 1.56	0.62
Far East (Pacific)	118.80	126.10	+ 3.00	0.46
Income Growth	69.46	73.73†	+ 0.93	4.39
European	64.00	67.97†	+ 0.99	2.03
Nth American	59.55	63.21	+ 0.94	1.14
UK Growth	73.74	78.27	...	1.51
Intl Growth	86.86	92.20	+ 1.72	0.56
Charities	104.60	111.00†	- 0.20	4.71
Intl Income	63.17	67.05	+ 0.62	4.78
Japan	40.64	43.14	+ 1.18	...
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St, EC4R 9AS. 071 280 2060				
American	200.30	212.60	+ 2.60	...
-do- Acc	214.10	227.20	+ 2.80	...
Cash	100.40	100.40†	...	6.49
-do- Acc	127.70	127.70†	...	6.49
European Gth	193.20	204.90	+ 2.00	0.34
-do- Acc	206.80	219.40	+ 2.10	0.34
General	444.90	474.60	- 4.00	2.70
-do- Acc	834.00	889.70	- 7.80	2.70
Global Dist	135.80	142.60	+ 1.40	5.18
-do- Acc	148.80	156.30	+ 1.90	5.18
Income	134.10	143.00	- 0.90	5.09
-do- Acc	192.80	205.60	- 1.40	5.09
International	364.50	388.30	+ 3.70	1.07
-do- Acc	483.30	515.10	+ 5.00	1.07

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
Japan	150.80	160.00†	+ 3.30	...
-do- Acc	154.80	164.30†	+ 3.50	...
New Europe	129.30	138.00†	+ 0.50	1.45
-do- Acc	131.40	140.20†	+ 0.50	1.45
Recovery	274.40	292.70	- 2.10	3.27
-do- Acc	342.90	365.80	- 2.50	3.27
European Inc	73.97	78.47†	+ 0.99	2.99
-do- Acc	93.84	99.58†	+ 1.26	2.99
Brit Blue Chip	69.52	74.04	- 0.73	3.60
-do- Acc	81.40	86.70	- 0.84	3.60
Portfolio	71.76	76.33	- 0.16	3.16
-do- Acc	80.40	85.54	- 0.17	3.16
Gold General	58.90	62.41	+ 1.53	3.89
-do- Acc	59.31	63.27	+ 1.56	3.89
Pacific	83.99	89.55	+ 1.22	0.64
-do- Acc	88.78	94.66	+ 1.29	0.64
UK Smaller Cos	48.60	51.84	+ 0.04	1.72
-do- Acc	54.04	57.65	+ 0.04	1.72
MIDLAND UNIT TRUSTS LTD 192 Eyre Street, Sheffield, S1 3RD. Dealing: 0742 520 200. Enquiries: 0742 529 076				
Balanced Dist	56.24	60.15	- 0.19	3.70
-do- Acc	56.24	60.15	- 0.19	3.70
British Dist	75.50	80.75	- 1.54	2.46
-do- Acc	83.40	89.20	- 1.70	2.46
European Gth	165.40	176.50	- 0.10	0.35
-do- Acc	207.60	221.50	- 0.20	0.35
Extra High Inc	66.31	70.92†	- 0.22	6.81
-do- Acc	115.30	123.30	- 0.40	6.81
FT-SE 100 Index	46.75	50.00	...	...
-do- Acc	46.75	50.00	...	...
Gilt Fixed Int	55.94	58.29	- 0.10	7.12
-do- Acc	145.20	151.30	- 0.30	7.12
High Yield	209.30	223.80	- 1.30	5.29
-do- Acc	480.20	513.60	- 3.00	5.29
Income	265.00	283.40†	- 2.70	4.15
-do- Acc	550.60	588.90	- 5.60	4.15
Japan Gth	269.40	288.00	+ 4.20	...
-do- Acc	284.30	304.00	+ 4.50	...
Mandarin Acc	89.17	95.37	+ 1.20	1.31
North American	172.70	184.70	+ 1.80	0.71
-do- Acc	217.10	232.20	+ 2.40	0.71
MORGAN GRENFELL INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT. Dealing: 071 826 0826. Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gth	265.70	282.80†	+ 2.80	0.45
Deposit Inc	100.01	100.01†	+ 0.01	5.31
Deposit Acc	121.23	121.23†	+ 0.01	5.31
Euro Gth Acc	250.80	267.50†	+ 0.30	...
Europa	114.80	123.50†	+ 1.60	...
Intl Gth	159.90	170.70	+ 1.70	...
Japan Tracker	59.61	63.16	+ 1.32	...
UK Equity Inc	138.80	149.40	- 1.00	5.25
-do- Acc	167.10	179.90	- 1.20	5.25
UK Ind Tracker	137.20	146.90†	- 1.30	3.60
US Eq Ind Trkr	201.60	213.70	+ 3.10	1.23
-do- Acc	212.10	224.80	+ 3.20	1.23
Asian Trader	137.40	149.00	+ 3.00	1.03
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G2 2PX. 0345 090 933				
American Inc	181.10	185.20†	+ 2.20	2.51
European	60.01	61.39	+ 0.72	1.24
Olympiad	52.53	53.83†	+ 0.71	0.75
Global Bond	47.29	47.80†	+ 0.40	7.08
Smaller Cos	58.51	61.12	+ 0.09	2.04
Equity Income	90.01	92.49	- 0.62	4.85
UK Growth	81.08	83.60	- 0.60	1.63
NM UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD The Bilton Centre, North Harbour, Portsmouth. Enquiries: 0705 372222. Dealing: 0705 387738				
American Acc	50.07	53.40	+ 0.78	0.71
Australian Acc	275.90	296	+ 7.50	...
Conscience	61.62	65.76	- 0.28	1.70
-do- Acc	66.16	70.60	- 0.30	1.70
European	166.40	177.40	+ 0.30	1.22
-do- Acc	177.50	189.30	+ 0.30	1.22
Extra Income	69.87	74.56	- 0.52	5.73
-do- Acc	105.00	112.00	- 0.80	5.73
Far East Gth	139.60	149.20	+ 1.50	0.08
Gilt Fxd Inc	56.54	59.86	- 0.10	7.70
Gold	27.45	29.51	+ 0.50	...
-do- Acc	29.56	31.78	+ 0.55	...
Income	49.89	53.21	- 0.49	4.42
-do- Acc	149.60	159.50	- 1.50	4.42
International	28.45	30.52	+ 0.14	0.88
-do- Acc	40.87	43.85	+ 0.20	0.88
Jap Sm Cos Acc	251.40	268.10	+ 5.70	...
S pore Mly Acc	152.10	163.10	+ 5.40	...
Smllr Cos Acc	23.45	25.21	+ 0.01	2.05
Special Sits	31.00	33.33	- 0.31	1.83
-do- Acc	35.38	38.04	- 0.35	1.83
Tokyo	65.92	70.31	+ 1.14	...
-do- Acc	66.59	71.02	+ 1.16	...
N & P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF. 061 237 5322				
N&P UK Growth	64.97	69.12	- 0.83	3.02
N&P Gilt Fxd Int	73.72	78.02	- 0.07	6.91
N&P Higher Inc	175.60	186.40†	- 1.30	5.13
N&P UK Income	95.44	102.08	- 0.93	4.24
N&P Intl	83.03	89.28	- 0.70	2.22
N&P Smaller Cos	69.40	74.23	+ 0.43	1.90
NEWTON FUND MANAGERS 2 London Bridge, London SE1 9RA. 071 407 4404				
General	155.09	164.99	- 0.52	2.53
Global	264.93	281.85	+ 3.86	0.82
Growth	99.70	106.07	- 0.84	2.50
Income	189.94	202.07†	- 1.68	4.30
Intl Bond	126.26	134.32	+ 1.43	8.30
PEARL UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 508, Peterborough PE2 6BR. 0733 470470. Dealing: 0800 626577.				
Growth	134.60	141.60	- 0.90	2.83
-do- Acc	233.00	245.20	- 1.50	2.83
Income	211.10	224.90	- 0.80	3.89
Intl Equity	208.40	221.70	+ 2.60	1.16
-do- Acc	228.20	242.70	+ 2.80	1.16
Equity	210.30	223.70	- 1.20	2.69
-do- Acc	426.30	453.50	- 2.50	2.69
UK Intl 25 Acc	66.24	70.47	- 0.08	2.16
UK Income	57.38	61.04†	- 0.29	3.45
UK Smllr Co Acc	65.80	70.00	- 0.16	1.84
New Europe Acc	60.87	64.75	+ 0.50	1.67
PERPETUAL UNIT TRUST 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417000				
Asian Smllr Mkt	81.27	86.92	+ 0.09	0.24
PEP Gth Inc	94.22	100.78	- 0.02	1.24
Intl Gth	441.89	472.61	- 2.06	1.36
Income	272.41	291.35	- 3.02	4.23
W wide Recov	275.31	294.45	- 0.80	0.98
American Gth	204.61	218.84	- 1.26	0.01
Intl Emerg Cos	169.16	180.93	- 0.27	0.24
Far East Gth	171.46	183.38	+ 1.32	0.36
European Gth	107.25	114.71	- 0.93	1.21
UK Growth	69.70	74.55	- 1.11	3.17
High Income	74.80	80.01†	- 0.70	5.13
Japanese Gth	159.73	170.82	- 3.11	0.01
PROLIFIC UNIT TRUST MANAGERS Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook, London EC4N 8LD. Dealing: 0800 262443				
International	168.00	178.70	+ 1.80	0.80
High Income	103.60	110.20	- 2.30	3.86
Conv Gilt	109.00	116.00	- 0.10	6.63
Far East	284.00	302.10	- 1.10	0.12
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT 1 Seniors Hse Sq, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. 0622 674751				
American	52.43	53.78	+ 0.54	0.53
Emerging Mkts	57.85	61.54	+ 0.56	0.23

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
General	46.16	49.11	- 0.53	3.49
International	81.12	86.30	+ 0.14	1.32
Gilt Units	24.94	25.71†	- 0.06	8.27
Global PEP	34.67	36.88	- 0.06	2.12
Income Gth	60.96	64.85†	- 0.51	5.42
European	42.67	45.39	+ 0.06	1.17
Gilt/Fixed Int	25.39	27.01	- 0.03	6.17
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51/59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL. 081 478 3377. Pricebank 0426 925891				
Pru Mngd Tst**	28.77	30.77	+ 0.09	1.82
Pru Cth Hvn Inc	100.81	100.81†	+ 0.01	5.72
-do- Acc	103.87	103.87†	+ 0.02	5.72
Pru Equity	638.05	682.40	- 6.37	2.74
Pru Equity Inc	76.93	82.27†	- 0.81	4.40
Pru European	168.37	180.07	+ 0.07	1.87
Pru Global Gth	74.97	80.18†	+ 0.01	1.60
Pru High Inc	83.58	89.39	- 0.38	5.48
Pru Intl	149.21	159.58†	+ 0.75	1.36
Pru Intl Sm Co	63.96	68.40	- 0.47	0.94
Pru Japanese	143.39	153.35	+ 2.50	...
Pru Nth Amer	149.17	159.54	+ 0.68	0.44
Pru Pacific Mkt	68.74	73.51†	+ 0.94	1.91
Pru Presnr Inc	48.78	50.80†	- 0.08	7.53
Pru Smllr Cos	77.90	83.31	+ 0.01	2.51
Pru Spec Sits	94.51	101.08†	- 0.85	2.64
Pru UK Grwth	105.77	113.12†	- 1.09	2.56
** Formerly Holborn Trust				
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT LTD St Swithin's Lane, London EC4N 8NR. Dealing: 071 634 2981/4				
Income	150.77	162.26	- 0.65	3.72
Japan	217.56	233.17	+ 4.90	...
Major UK Cos	90.96	97.86	- 0.97	2.57
America Income	482.03	516.76	+ 7.84	0.56
-do- Acc	559.88	600.22	+ 9.11	0.56
Smllr UK Cos	244.58	266.74	- 0.46	1.90
Smllr European	244.36	260.48	+ 3.53	1.56
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB. 0708 766966 or 0800 929929 (IFAs only)				
Amer Inc Gth	74.44	79.19	+ 1.79	3.70
Capital Units	137.40	146.10	+ 1.00	1.60
Commodity	96.50	102.60	+ 2.60	1.30
European Gth	148.10	157.50	+ 2.20	1.47
Financial Sec	163.40	173.80	+ 1.30	2.04
High Return	205.80	218.90†	- 0.30	4.96
High Yield	201.20	214.00	+ 0.10	4.28
Income Units	105.00	111.60†	...	5.74
Investment	164.60	175.10	+ 0.50	1.69
Japan Gth	112.90	120.10	+ 3.20	...
Japan Smaller	153.90	163.70	+ 5.20	...
Masterfund	44.16	46.97	+ 0.60	1.24
Scotbits	240.10	255.40†	+ 0.70	2.16
Scotshares	244.20	259.70	+ 0.60	3.02
Scotyields	219.10	233.00	- 0.40	4.32
Select Intl	124.00	131.90	+ 1.90	0.70
Smaller Cos	207.40	220.60	- 0.30	4.71
Special Situation	104.10	110.70	- 0.30	0.86
UK Equity	215.00	228.70†	+ 0.20	2.82
US Growth	146.60	155.90	+ 2.80	0.29
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD 33 Gutter Lane, London EC2V 8AS. Client line: 0800 526 535. Broker line: 0800 526 540				
American	249.56	266.19	- 0.90	0.68
-do- Acc	269.60	287.58	- 0.96	0.68
Australian	122.68	130.85†	+ 3.01	0.27
-do- Acc	143.75	153.33	+ 3.52	0.27
UK Enterprise	193.39	206.28†	- 2.34	3.16
-do- Acc	223.38	238.26	- 2.71	3.16
European Gth	60.87	64.92†	+ 0.01	1.34
-do- Acc	63.01	67.21	+ 0.02	1.34
Euro Smllr Cos	54.65	58.29†	+ 0.39	0.70
-do- Acc	55.03	58.69	+ 0.40	0.70
Far Eastern Gth	62.63	66.80†	+ 0.67	...
-do- Acc	63.73	67.97	+ 0.68	...
Fixed Interest	52.30	55.14	- 0.12	8.40
-do- Acc	62.65	66.06	- 0.14	8.40
Gilt Income	102.71	108.24	- 0.31	8.75
-do- Acc	138.87	146.35	- 0.41	8.75
Income	292.05	311.52	- 4.04	4.61
-do- Acc	845.93	902.31	-11.73	4.61
Japan Enterprise	52.62	56.12	+ 1.00	...
-do- Acc	52.62	56.12	+ 1.00	...
Japan Smllr Cos	330.96	353.02†	+ 7.39	...
-do- Acc	331.62	353.73	+ 7.41	...
Pacific Gth	79.80	85.12†	+ 0.92	0.56
-do- Acc	82.29	87.78	+ 0.95	0.56
Smaller Cos	177.09	188.89†	+ 0.01	1.33
-do- Acc	202.95	216.47	...	1.33
Tokyo	84.39	90.01	+ 1.52	...
-do- Acc	85.24	90.92	+ 1.54	...
UK Equity	196.04	209.10†	- 2.69	3.29
-do- Acc	363.01	387.21	- 4.97	3.29
US Smllr Cos	131.27	140.02	- 0.14	...
-do- Acc	131.27	140.02	- 0.14	...
World Fd	66.73	71.17†	- 0.34	1.76
-do- Acc	70.42	75.11	- 0.36	1.76
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ. 041 204 2200				
Equity Income	41.33	44.02	+ 0.02	4.53
Equity Strategy	61.16	65.14	+ 0.46	2.10
European Opps	70.39	74.97	+ 1.13	3.22
Maximum Inc	97.53	100.05	+ 0.02	5.91
UK Smaller Cos	47.53	50.62	+ 0.05	3.80
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh. 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	331.80	354.50	- 3.80	3.07
American	258.60	274.50	+ 1.00	0.89
Pacific	281.50	301.10	+ 3.90	0.93
European	437.00	467.40	+ 1.20	1.32
Worldwide	75.34	80.58	- 0.02	1.52
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN. 041 248 6100				
UK Equity	295.40	314.30	- 2.00	3.18
UK Sm Cos Eqty	190.40	202.60	+ 0.20	3.17
European	323.50	344.20	+ 3.20	1.53
North American	261.60	278.40	+ 1.40	0.61
Income Plus Inc	61.92	65.88	- 0.54	3.60
UK Spec Sits	64.34	68.45	...	2.73
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA. 031 558 2341/2/3				
Equity Gth Acc	24.47	26.19	- 0.17	3.24
Intl Growth Acc	26.97	28.87	- 0.34	1.15
Global Inc Acc	30.20	32.32	- 0.21	4.03
Market Ldrs Acc	24.82	26.56†	- 0.14	3.21
SG TOUCHE REMNANT Mermaid Hse, 2 Puddle Dock, London EC4V 3AT. 071 248 1250				
American Gth	86.43	92.43	+ 0.14	...
Euro Spec Sits	42.22	44.85	+ 0.22	...
-do- Acc	44.70	47.49	+ 0.23	...
Far East Opps	28.97	31.22	+ 0.27	...
-do- Acc	29.77	32.08	+ 0.27	...
General Growth	96.10	103.00†	- 1.10	...
Global Tech	125.30	135.10	+ 0.70	...
Income Growth	96.62	103.90†	- 1.10	3.97
Income Monthly	55.40	59.25	- 0.39	5.30
Japan Growth	65.06	69.18	+ 1.29	...
Overseas Gth	72.47	77.12	+ 0.46	...
Smaller Cos	68.29	73.43	- 0.01	1.93
Special Opps	92.53	99.49†	+ 0.16	2.12
Wld Spec Sits	43.61	46.91†	- 0.41	...
-do- Acc	43.71	47.01†	+ 0.41	...
STANDARD LIFE TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ. 0800 393777				
Managed	42.62	45.29	+ 0.20	1.84
Equity Gth Acc	57.63	61.24	+ 0.10	1.20

	Bid	Offer	+/-	Yld %
UK Eq General	41.44	44.04	+ 0.10	2.36
-do- Acc	54.39	57.79	+ 0.20	2.36
European Acc	40.42	42.95	+ 0.30	1.45
Far East Acc	46.54	49.45	- 0.60	0.39
Gilt Fxd Int Inc	29.91	31.63	...	6.71
N American Acc	46.12	49.01	...	0.75
O/s Lgr Cos Acc	256.00	277.80	+ 1.40	1.72
UK Eq High Inc	34.47	36.63	+ 0.10	3.89
-do- Acc	40.37	42.90	+ 0.10	3.89
UK Lgr Cos Inc	284.40	308.60	+ 1.00	3.84
UK Lgr Cos Acc	365.80	396.90	+ 1.30	3.84
STATE STREET UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD Birchin Court, 20 Birchin Lane, London EC3V 9AQ. 071 626 1977				
Global A	N$233.37	N$253.57	...	1.10
US Eq	$2.052	$2.179	...	0.85
Far East Eq	Y199.4	Y211.7	...	...
Japan Eq	Y198.8	Y211.2	...	...
FT Europe	112.10	119.00	...	1.83
FT North Am	$1.726	$1.833	...	0.87
FT Japan	Y197.0	Y208.5	...	...
FT Asia Ex Jap	108.70	115.40	...	1.20
STEWART IVORY UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh. 031 226 3271				
American	364.10	386.50	+ 5.20	0.23
British	910.10	962.90	- 1.30	4.68
European	362.40	386.00	+ 3.00	1.65
Japan	118.70	126.30	+ 1.80	...
New Pacific	279.60	297.80	+ 1.80	1.40
Mngd Cash	95.82	95.82	...	5.74
Majority Stg	100.00	101.00	+ 0.01	5.88
Inv Tst	177.90	188.60	- 1.20	2.04
Saints PPP	342.40	360.40	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE Admin, 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Essex. 0277 227300. Dealing: 0277 690389				
Equity Acc	703.10	752.00†	- 6.30	2.34
N America Acc	121.00	129.40†	+ 1.30	0.28
Far East Acc	109.50	117.10†	+ 2.10	0.59
W wide Bond	62.44	66.28	+ 0.90	5.30
European	80.26	85.84	+ 0.52	0.64
Equity Income	78.27	83.71	- 1.62	4.34
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ. Dealing: 0256 841414				
American Gth	35.73	38.22	+ 0.57	0.76
Managed Assets	114.67	122.65†	- 0.27	3.50
UK Income	35.38	37.84	- 0.33	3.94
UK Growth	35.24	37.70	- 0.30	2.76
Worldwide Gth	29.48	31.53	+ 0.35	0.57
TSB UNIT TRUSTS LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE. 0264 346794				
American	208.15	221.43	+ 2.01	0.20
-do- Acc	228.61	243.21	+ 2.21	0.20
British Gth	82.06	87.30	- 0.96	2.27
-do- Acc	95.76	101.87	- 1.13	2.27
European	90.16	95.91†	+ 0.31	1.27
-do- Acc	95.30	101.17†	+ 0.33	1.27
Extra Inc	178.24	189.62	- 0.02	4.62
-do- Acc	279.84	297.70	- 0.02	4.62
General Unit	250.40	266.39†	- 4.95	2.61
-do- Acc	493.99	525.52†	- 9.77	2.61
Income	304.89	324.35	- 3.65	3.92
-do- Acc	621.01	660.64	- 7.45	3.92
International	482.77	513.59	+ 1.76	0.63
-do- Acc	631.07	671.35	+ 2.30	0.62
Pacific	307.46	327.08	+ 6.84	...
-do- Acc	322.00	342.55	+ 7.16	...
Premier Income	49.54	51.60†	- 0.18	7.50
-do- Acc	101.73	105.97†	- 0.36	7.50
Nat Resources	90.38	96.15	- 0.27	...
-do- Acc	99.11	105.43	- 0.31	...
Selected Opps	88.78	94.44	- 0.76	1.35
-do- Acc	110.86	117.94	- 0.94	1.35
TARGET TRUST MANAGERS Charlton Place, Andover, Hampshire SP10 1RE. 0264 346747				
American Eagle	131.60	140.30	+ 1.70	0.22
Australia	6.807	7.300†	+0.280	1.80
Equity	175.30	187.50†	- 2.10	3.46
Euro Spec Sits	140.70	149.40	+ 0.60	0.58
Financial	37.34	39.94	- 0.31	3.01
Global Opps Inc	87.50	93.32	+ 1.04	2.16
-do- Acc	90.70	96.73	+ 1.08	2.16
Gold Gen Inc	39.49	42.30	+ 0.80	1.04
-do- Acc	75.35	80.80	+ 1.15	1.04
Income	113.90	121.90	- 1.40	5.09
Japan General	122.50	130.30	+ 2.80	...
Preference	21.48	23.10†	...	7.85
UK Capital	98.48	105.30†	- 1.30	3.27
Worldwide Cap	191.80	204.80†	- 0.20	3.14
World Income	81.67	87.03†	+ 0.20	3.47
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Cavendish Sq, London W1M 7HF. 071 493 7262. Dealing: 071 493 8545				
Amer Sml Cos	73.76	78.67	+ 1.57	...
-do- Acc	76.07	81.14	+ 1.61	...
Cash	51.25	51.25	+ 0.01	6.24
-do- Acc	60.99	60.99	...	6.24
European Opps	60.99	64.98	+ 0.02	0.45
-do- Acc	61.62	65.66	+ 0.03	0.45
Far East Opps	134.40	143.36	+ 1.20	0.07
-do- Acc	137.53	146.69	+ 1.21	0.07
Gold/Nat Res	36.17	38.58	+ 1.20	...
-do- Acc	37.19	39.66	+ 1.21	...
Japan	63.11	67.30	+ 0.85	...
-do- Acc	63.11	67.90	+ 0.85	...
Little Dragons	63.44	67.66	+ 0.37	0.84
-do- Acc	65.07	69.40	+ 0.38	0.74
Oriental Income	39.27	41.88	+ 0.29	3.87
-do- Acc	49.56	52.86	+ 0.37	3.87
Tiger	201.71	215.15	+ 0.88	1.22
-do- Acc	211.00	225.06	+ 0.93	1.22
UK Small Cos	66.18	70.78	- 0.38	2.30
-do- Acc	75.88	81.15	- 0.46	2.30
UNITED CHARITIES UNIT TRUSTS Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, London E7. 081 534 5544				
United Charities	216.80	231.20	- 1.00	4.55
WAVERLEY UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh EH2 4DJ. 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	10.19	10.84	+ 0.27	0.59
Pacific Basin	29.14	31	+ 0.65	0.80
Canadian Gth	37.61	40.01	+ 0.65	0.10
Global Bond	$0.945	$0.984	-0.005	7.24
Penny Share	19.80	21.06	- 0.17	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TRUST MANAGERS 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT. 071 606 3132				
City Reserve	52.11	52.11†	...	6.23
Gilt Growth	64.52	67.15	- 0.09	...
Gilt Income	51.87	53.99	- 0.08	8.00
Short Dtd Gilt	109.40	110.80	- 0.20	4.47
US Govmnt Bd	$0.708	$0.718	-0.000	...
Challenger	93.51	95.72	+ 1.13	...
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 1 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG. 0705 388046				
Stockmarket Fd	64.79	68.92	- 0.60	2.19

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

Strong rise in profit at News Corporation

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

SHARPLY lower interest charges and improvements at BSkyB, the British satellite television channel, and Ansett Transport Industries, in Australia, have helped pre-tax profit at The News Corporation, the international media group chaired by Rupert Murdoch. The figure for the six months to December 31 was A$581 million (£271 million), almost double the A$298 million achieved last time.

BSkyB's operating profits at the end of December were running at just under £1 million a week, on revenues of £6.6 million. The service accounted for almost all the associated profits from News International, The News Corporation's British arm and parent company of *The Times*. These totalled £7.51 million, against a loss of £20.9 million previously. BSkyB claims to supply 3.4 million homes, and hopes to add about a million new subscribers during the current financial year.

Reed International, the publishing group, yesterday confirmed the sale of its 3.66 per cent indirect holding in BSkyB. The shares will be bought by three other minority investors in the venture, Chargeurs, Pearson and Granada, for £62.3 million. News International retains a 50 per cent holding in BSkyB.

Peter Davis, the Reed chairman, said his company had invested £61 million in BSkyB since 1987. In May 1991, Reed decided not to invest further, and the investment has been fully provided for at a net cost of £54 million after tax. Chargeurs, Pearson and Granada are also assuming responsibility for Reed's loan guarantees.

The turnround at BSkyB, in addition to the non-recurrence of a £22.2 million provision last time and £3.23 million of interest income, compared with a £75.6 million bill, helped to send News International into an £86.9 million pre-tax profit, against losses of £54.8 million. Operating profits rose from £63.9 million to £76.2 million, mainly reflecting cost savings at the five newspaper titles rather than any recovery in advertising revenue.

At The News Corporation, total interest costs came down by A$110 million to A$387 million as the group's financial restructuring cut debts, and interest rates fell. Associated companies, including BSkyB and Ansett, which returned to profit, contributed A$93.1 million of operating income, a recovery from losses of A$62.7 million. Also included in associates for the first time are earnings from Pacific Magazines & Printing. Pacific was wholly owned until December 1991, but The News Corporation now has only a 45 per cent interest.

The group is making a three-for-one bonus share issue, so improving the shares' marketability, and raising the interim dividend to 1.5 cents, from an adjusted 1.25 cents. Earnings per share, before abnormal items, rose from 79 cents to A$1.18. News International stock in London rose by 14p to 764p in response to the figures.

The News Corporation's newspaper and magazine interests both scored 22 per cent increases in operating income, to A$349 million and A$208 million respectively. Television rose by 30 per cent to A$161 million, but filmed entertainment incomes were halved to A$33.3 million, including a 55 per cent fall in profits from Twentieth Century Fox Film after the failure of two winter releases. A third film, *Home Alone 2*, has already generated more than US$320 million at the box office worldwide, much of it falling into the second half. HarperCollins, the book division, saw operating profits decline by 28 per cent after an absence of significant orders from the American school system.


JOHN MANNING

In the money: The group's chief executive Peter Job says healthy cash balance could help to expand Reuters TV

Reuters profit up as pound weakens

REUTERS Holdings, the international news and information group, is benefiting from sterling's troubles. A weak pound in the last quarter helped to boost 1992 revenue 6.9 per cent to £1.568 billion while profit before tax increased to £383 million (£340 million) after rationalisation costs of £29 million.

Overseas customers account for more than 80 per cent of Reuter's income and Rob Rowley, finance director, expects the weak pound to be of further benefit in 1993 in revenue terms. However, he said that the positive effect will take time to work through to the bottom line. Reuters bills a large proportion of its non-UK clients in advance and typically hedges 40 to 90 per cent of its overseas income 12 months forward. It is again increasing its dividend at a rate ahead of after-tax profits growth. Total dividend is up 25 per cent to 24.7p while earnings per share rose only 12.9 per cent to 61.8p.

The largest growth in sales, 14 per cent, came from the Americas where Reuters has made a substantial investment in Instinet, a subsidiary which runs an equities-transaction business. European sales grew 6 per cent to just over £1 billion while Far Eastern sales were affected by Japan's slowdown.

Capital expenditure totalled £199 million, up 25 per cent in a year in which the company launched two products: Dealing 2000-2, a foreign-exchange transaction system operating in nine countries, and Globex which provides similar services for financial futures and options.

During 1992, Reuters bought outstanding interests of the BBC and NBC in Visnews. The television news company, to be renamed Reuters TV, lost £500,000 last year.

Cash balances rose sharply to £710 million (£503 million). Peter Job, chief executive, would not be drawn on how the money would be spent but forecast increased expenditure on Globex and expansion for Reuters TV.

Tempus, page 23

VW will cut 36,000 jobs over five years

FROM REUTER IN WOLFSBURG

VOLKSWAGEN said its five-year plan for 1993-7 included trimming the worldwide workforce by 36,000 jobs to about 240,000.

A VW spokesman confirmed the figures released by the works council on Monday. However, he said the figure of 36,000 was only a guideline and could fluctuate in response to changes in demand. It was more realistic to focus on plans to cut the workforce by about 30,000 by end-1994, he added. "We should stick to 30,000 by the end of 1994."

VW had a worldwide workforce of 276,000 at end-1992. The plan to cut 36,000 jobs by the end of 1997 was approved by the supervisory board on January 13 as part of the new five-year medium-term plan for VW, he added.

At that meeting VW also approved a new investment plan, which calls for total investments of DM75.8 billion of which DM45.3 billion will be spent on automotive activities and DM30.5 billion on financial services.

About 10,000 of the job cuts will be made in VW's overseas plants, including the Mexican venture. Another 5,000 cuts will be made at VW's Spanish unit, Seat, which employs 25,000 people, the spokesman confirmed. Some jobs will also be trimmed at the Skoda division, but VW declined to quantify these. Skoda employed 17,000 people at the end of 1992.

This means about 21,000 jobs will be cut in Germany over the next five years. Although the spokesman declined to specify these, he confirmed that 16,500 job cuts had been set for the next two years. This includes 12,500 jobs at the VW parent company, which mainly covers VW's six domestic plants, and 4,000 jobs at the Audi subsidiary. The VW parent employed almost 119,000 people by end-1992.

☐ The European Commission said it had cleared Volkswagen's acquisition from Lonrho of the share capital of VAG, the exclusive importer and distributor in Britain of Volkswagen cars.

It said Volkswagen would acquire direct sole control of UK marketing of Volkswagen and Audi cars but the concentration "will not give rise to any increase in market share, the only economic effect being the increase in the value added by Volkswagen through vertical integration of its activities".

Paper's 'saviour' is sued by SEC

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

THE Securities and Exchange Commission is suing Towers Financial Corporation, the American debt-collecting empire, and Steven Hoffenberg, its chairman, who is hailed as the likely saviour of the *New York Post*, the ailing Manhattan tabloid.

The SEC accuses Towers and Mr Hoffenberg of fraud and false accounting, and alleges that the company is almost insolvent.

Mr Hoffenberg was holding urgent meetings at the *New York Post* yesterday after an unsuccessful first attempt by the SEC to freeze his assets. He was not immediately available for comment, but lawyers said he would produce accountants to defend Towers' balance sheet and accounting methods.

The SEC claims fraud and false financial statements have been used to raise more than $400 million from individual investors through bonds and promissory notes. It is trying to recover $200 million of what it described as "ill gotten" gains from defendants in the case, who also include Mitchell Brater, Towers' vice-chairman, and Arthur Ferro, who prepared the company's financial statements. On Monday, a New York judge postponed an immediate asset freeze on Mr Hoffenberg and will hear the case again on February 24.

This could give Mr Hoffenberg time to complete the purchase of the *Post*, but is was unclear last night whether he would have sufficient cash to pay its bills. He has already made cash payments of $3.5 million.

Mr Hoffenberg and his organisation have been under SEC investigation for three years. The commission says Towers' earnings are a sixth of those reported, its assets less than half those stated in the accounts, and operating expenses "staggering"; shareholders' equity, they say, is a negative $120 million.

The SEC claims Towers gave investors financial statements which showed profits in the year to June 1991 of $4.3 million. In that year expenses were $93 million and the SEC says Towers should have shown a loss of $62 million.

Towers and Mr Hoffenberg are accused of selling $215 million of promissory notes and $200 million of bonds to 2,800 investors in 40 states. The securities were not registered with the SEC.

Ward trial considers case for new evidence

The trial of Thomas Ward, an American lawyer who played an important role during Guinness's £2.6 billion bid for Distillers in 1986, was adjourned until this morning, to allow time to consider whether further evidence should be introduced. Mr Ward denies stealing £5.2 million from Guinness, claiming the money was a legitimate success fee.

Mr Justice Turner apologised to the jury for the interruption, and told them it was deemed necessary to consider evidence that may or may not need to be submitted, depending on the outcome of legal argument. Victor Temple, for the Crown, began his closing speech on Monday.

Ericsson hope

Ericsson, the Swedish telecommunications group, predicted a profits surge this year after a smaller-than-expected fall of almost 19 per cent in pre-tax profits in 1992 to 1.3 billion kronor (£130 million). The dividend was unchanged at Kr3.50. The devaluation of the krona in November is expected to have a favourable impact on this year's results. Orders grew strongly in the final quarter of last year, and profits and sales also rose. Heavy investment in mobile-telephone technology led to a 56 per cent leap in orders. Overall sales were Kr1.2 billion higher, at Kr47 billion.

Dalgety move

Maurice Warren, chief executive of Dalgety, is doubling up as chairman after the stroke suffered by John West. Mr Warren had planned to leave the Spillers, Homepride and Golden Wonder food group in June, when he reaches 60. Richard Clothier, his nominated successor as chief executive, steps up in April, two months early.

MSC dips

Pre-tax profits at Manchester Ship Canal were £10.51 million last year, slightly down on the £10.78 million made in 1991. The ports business increased operating profit by 15.6 per cent to £6.07 million, on turnover up 3.5 per cent at £20.9 million. The final dividend stays at 4.5p, while earnings per share fell to 219.6p from 339p.

Betacom profit

Betacom, the telephone equipment distributor now 71.3 per cent owned by Amstrad, made a pre-tax profit of £350,000 in the six months to December 31, against a £644,000 loss last time. There is again no dividend. Ken Ashcroft, chairman, said the company was recovering UK market share after a difficult period.

EC opposes quotas to prop up steel

BY TOM WALKER AND COLIN NARBROUGH

MARTIN Bangemann, the EC industry commissioner, has told Europe's steelmakers he opposes any re-introduction of output and delivery quotas to try to prop up the ailing industry, but may back a voluntary regime of capacity cuts.

His message accompanied a report from Fernand Braun, the EC's special steel envoy, stating that Europe's steelmakers say the Community will have to foot a £4.8 billion bill if they are to cut 50,000 jobs and bring production in line with needs over the next three years. Half the job losses would be in Germany, Europe's biggest steel producer.

The steelmakers have indicated they would be willing to make capacity cuts of up to 25.8 million tonnes of crude steel and 17.9 million tonnes of rolled products, but that most of the cuts offered are "potential" rather than "definite" or "probable". Last year, the Community produced 133 million tonnes. The only definite cuts outlined in the Braun report are for 8.5 million tonnes in crude steel and 6.6 million tonnes in rolled products.

The demand for massive financial support from the Community has raised the stakes in the biggest industrial challenge to face West Europe in a decade. Commission officials admit the crisis in steel, against the background of American protectionism, and cheap imports from eastern Europe, is far worse than the cyclical recession of the early eighties.

Herr Bangemann made his views clear at a meeting at Hasselt, Belgium, on Monday with the heads of steel companies and Karel van Miert, the competition commissioner. But the meeting appeared to make little progress on the 25-30 million tonnes of capacity cuts the EC wants. Herr Bangemann has so far only offered £700 million towards restructuring.

The industry, represented by Brian Moffat, chief executive of British Steel, and his German and French counterparts, expects the social costs of laying off 50,000 workers to be at least £2 billion, with a further £2.8 billion needed for closing down plants. Mr Moffat described the Hasselt meeting as "useful and positive" and indicated that the EC intended to take action.

Telecom duopoly challenged by new Ionica licence

BY PATRICIA TEHAN


Leigh: signed licence

THE BT and Mercury telecommunications duopoly is to end next year, with the arrival of competition from Ionica, a new company that has promised to undercut its rivals and provide a complete alternative service for residential and small business customers.

The service will be available at the end of next year, using a radio-based system that avoids the need to lay cables.

Northern Electricity yesterday announced it had taken a 10 per cent stake in Ionica for £3.3 million. Other shareholders include Yorkshire Electricity; Kingston Communications, the Hull telecoms operator; 3i; and Robert Fleming.

Ionica is still seeking backers and is believed to be looking towards American and European telecoms firms. Nigel Playford, managing director, said the company required £100 million funding to build a national, radio-based telephone system before it became cash-flow positive.

Edward Leigh, the technology minister, yesterday signed Ionica's licence. It is the first granted for a fixed, national phone service since the government's telecoms duopoly review in 1991.

More licences are planned in the next few months. Mr Leigh yesterday invited public comments on applications from six other potential competitors to BT and Mercury.

Millicom's application for a fixed, national telecoms licence, made at the same time as Ionica, has been put out to further public consultation after the company decided to extend its application to convey entertainment. Millicom is also planning a radio-based service to residential and business customers from the end of next year. Two further applications, from National Network and Worldcom, for national licences are still being considered by the government.

Vodafone has applied for a licence to offer fixed services for the first time, alongside its mobile telephone business.

Three electricity companies, Telecom Electric, a subsidiary of National Grid Company; Scottish Hydro-Electric; and Scottish Power, plan to exploit their electricity transmission networks for telecoms traffic by laying optical fibre cables alongside electricity wires. City of London Telecommunications plans to provide telecoms services to London business customers.

Mr Leigh said: "I hope that we will get a really bustling, competitive environment over the next ten years."

Mr Playford said Ionica did not intend to "cherry pick" the most profitable customers but aimed "to undercut BT across the board in terms of the service that we will be offering to our customers. It will provide a substantial saving for anyone who uses the service". It hopes to have won 5 per cent of the residential and small business market within ten years.

BT welcomed the challenge that Ionica would bring to the market, but added: "We do not take any form of competition lightly."

CBI says green shoots are now sturdy

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BRITAIN'S economy is starting to grow again, the Confederation of British Industry declared last night — though it gave warning that the impact of the recession was so extensive that any improvement in activity would be slow.

Sir Michael Angus, president of the CBI, suggested "recovery is no mirage" and said the chances were that this time the "green shoots" of recovery identified before by ministers in this recession "will elect to stay above ground."

Speaking in London to members of the National Farmers' Union, Sir Michael said the economy was starting to grow: "But the recession has been too deep, has lasted too long and remains too widespread to allow a speedy pick-up in economic activity."

He warned in particular against any increase in taxes in next month's budget. Industry fears that the scale of the public spending deficit is putting pressure on Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, to raise taxes. But any recovery would be threatened "if the hair-shirt brigade in Whitehall or Westminster have their way and higher taxes are introduced". Instead, both the March and December budgets should have as their primary objectives the creation of conditions for renewed and sustainable growth.

The "dignified and managed exit" of Britain from the European exchange-rate mechanism last September had presented the UK with a range of new opportunities, but the quickest way to waste these would be if inflation were allowed to re-assert itself.

The CBI is urging the government to adopt a fresh round of pay restriction in the public sector after this year's pay settlement limit of 1.5 per cent.

☐ First signs of the recession bottoming out in the construction industry come today from building companies, which are suggesting that their current workload, though low, is holding steady. The latest state of trade survey from the Federation of Master Builders, with a membership of more than 19,000 companies, shows no further fall in the building industry's workload, at its best level since 1991.

The survey shows that 10 per cent of the companies questioned reported an increase in work in the final three months of last year, 45 per cent no change and 45 per cent a decline. The private sector showed the sharpest improvement, buoyed by better figures for new housing and new industrial building. Firms in the south recorded the worst workloads throughout 1992, with more than 70 per cent recording below average or low rates of work, while companies in the north have fared best in the recession.

Ted Evans, FMB national president, said the government's measures in its autumn statement had done little to help small and medium-sized builders. He hoped Mr Lamont would give the housebuilding industry special assistance in next month's budget.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

ALCON (COMPENSATION TRADING) LTD. AND ALCON (TECHNICAL SUPPLIES) LIMITED (both in Members Voluntary Liquidation)
Notice to Creditors
On 22 January 1993 the above were placed into Members Voluntary Liquidation and Grant Jones, LL.B, ACA, MCSI, MSPI of Morison Stoneham, 806 Salisbury House, 31 Finsbury Circus, London, EC2M 5SQ was appointed liquidator by the members.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of The Insolvency Rules 1986 that any creditor of the above must send in details, in writing, of any claim against the companies to the liquidator, at the above address by 26th February 1993, which is the last date for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to any creditor and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
NOTA BENE. This notice is purely formal and all known creditors have been, or will be, paid in full.
Dated 22 January 1993.
Grant Jones, Liquidator.

FAR EASTERN PETROLEUM COMPANY LIMITED (in Members' Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number: 320332
Notice to the Creditors of Far Eastern Petroleum Company Limited
On 1 February 1993 the above named company was placed in members voluntary liquidation and Richard Victor Yerburgh Sutchin of Price Waterhouse, No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL was appointed liquidator by the shareholders.
The liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to the liquidator, at the above address by 10 March 1993 which is the last day for proving claims. The liquidator also gives notice that he will then make a final distribution to creditors and that a creditor who does not make a claim by the date mentioned will not be included in the distribution.
The company is able to pay all known creditors in full.
Date 2 February 1993
R V Y Sutchin, Liquidator.

NEW YORK LONDON FINANCE CO. LIMITED AND CITICORP CAPITAL LTD (BOTH IN MEMBERS' VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
On 29 January 1993 the above companies were placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and Martin Fishman of Arthur Andersen, P.O. Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT, was appointed Liquidator by the Members.
The Liquidator gives notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the companies must send details, in writing of any claim against the companies to Mr. Fishman c/o Arthur Andersen, P.O. Box 55, 1 Surrey Street, London, WC2R 2NT by 7 April 1993.
The Liquidator also gives notice under the provision of Rule 4.182A(6) that on 6 May 1993 he intends to make a final return to creditors who have admitted claims by 7 April 1993 and that there will be no further distribution to creditors.
The companies are able to pay all of their known creditors in full.
DATED 29th January 1993.
M. FISHMAN, LIQUIDATOR.

NOTICE of resolution for payment out of capital
QUIDSTONE INVESTMENTS LIMITED
NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 that:
1. at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the above named company ("the Company") held at Zug, Switzerland on 5 February 1993, special resolutions were passed authorising a payment out of the capital of the Company in respect of the purchase by the Company of 99.99% of its own ordinary shares of £1 each from Wood Products International SA;
2. the amount of the permissible capital payment for the shares in question is £99,999;
3. the statutory declaration and auditors' report dated 5 February 1993 which are required by section 173 of the Companies Act 1985 are available for inspection at the Company's registered office which is at The King's Observatory, Old Deer Park, Richmond, Surrey TW9 2AZ;
4. any creditor of the Company may at any time within the five weeks immediately following the date of the aforementioned special resolutions for payment out of capital apply to the Court under section 176 of the Companies Act 1985 for an order prohibiting the payment.
DATED 10th February 1993.
Secretary

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
Winchester Vending Services Limited
Registered number: 934870.
Trade classification: 16. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 5 February 1993.
Name of person appointed the administrative receiver: National Westminster Bank Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: David John Sheehara and Peter Sheldon Paulson (office holder nos: 6576 and 5600). Address: The Quay 30 Channel Way Ocean Village Southampton SO1 1XF.

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Annual General Meeting of The London Playing Fields Society will take place at 2.30 pm on Thursday, 4 March 1993 at the Civil Service Club, 13 Great Scotland Yard, London SW1 for consideration of the Annual Report and Accounts and for other purposes provided in the Society's Charter and Bye-Laws.

Isosceles disposes of Herman's chain in US

Isosceles, the Gateway supermarket chain, has finally disposed of Herman's World of Sporting Goods, its US loss-making retailing subsidiary.

Isosceles has sold the 259-strong chain to a group of American investors for an undisclosed sum, although it is estimated that the disposal may have raised around $40 million. David Simons, chief executive of Isosceles, said: "We are very pleased that, after a period of considerable uncertainty, we have been able to find a local buyer for Herman's".

However, Isosceles was last night still counting the cost of the venture which has produced some hefty write-offs over the years. In the last set of accounts, Herman's had a book value of £57 million and it looks as if further provisions have been made since that date. The company was bought by the Dee Corporation for around $400 million before Isosceles staged its management buy-in of the group in 1989. During that time Herman's is believed to have contributed only once to group profits.

Isosceles continues to owe the banks more than £1 billion and has negotiated a capital and interest repayment freeze until May 28. During that time, the group hopes to negotiate a refinancing package with the banks.

Colas business sold in MBO

A management team led by Terry Simpson, the former chief executive of Norcros and joint managing director of Bunzl, is paying £72 million for the road services and building materials businesses of Colas, part of Shell UK, which has been selling companies not involved in its core energy business.

Excluded from the acquisition which was arranged by Charterhouse Development Capital, are the Colas road surfacing business and the Colcon civil engineering offshoot. Charterhouse has underwritten the equity element of the deal through its Second Management Buyout Fund and Charterhouse European Partners investment fund.

Platon bid

Platon International, the instrumentation maker, advised shareholders to take no action after a hostile £2.7 million takeover bid from Wills, the business services group. The board of Platon, based in Basingstoke, Hampshire, was considering the offer and planned to write to shareholders soon. Wills, of Godalming, Surrey, launched its all-share bid yesterday and said it already had acceptances for 11.3 per cent of Platon.

Profit-taking wipes £8bn off values in heavy trade

A WIDESPREAD belief in the Square Mile that a major rights issue is about to hit the market combined with a further slump in the value of the pound, prompting a wave of profit-taking that sent shares sharply lower, wiping £8.6 billion off share values.

An initial move into positive territory was short-lived. Dealers responded to a futures-led fall by marking down prices and unloading stock, while worries about public sector borrowing needs also gave sellers an excuse to take profits. The disappointing producer prices numbers did not help matters.

Falls were exacerbated by a weak start on Wall Street further depressing sentiment in London and dragging shares even lower, with the FT-SE 100 index down 47 points at one stage.

However, a partial recovery in America allowed shares to trim losses towards the close, with the FT-SE 100 index finishing down 38.7 at 2,831.3. Volume was relatively heavy, reaching 694.9 million shares.

Among the favourites for a cash call was **Kingfisher**, which lost 5p to 526p on speculation of a vendor placing and cash raising for Darty, the French electrical group, possibly today. Others mentioned included **Commercial Union**, down 22p to 598p, **National Westminster**, off 9p to 433p and **Trafalgar House**, ½p weaker at 86½p.

News that **Charter Consolidated**, the mining equipment to quarrying group, has sold its 38 per cent stake in **Johnson Matthey**, in a deal worth £342 million, sent both stocks into a spin. Charter lost 28p to 656p, while Johnson fell 19p to 473p.

Reed International eased 9p to 664p after confirming the sale of its 3.66 per cent stake in the BSkyB satellite television group for £62.3 million and transfer of all loan guarantees to the three other main shareholders of BSB Holdings — Chargeurs, **Pearson**, down 13p to 361p, and **Granada**, off 6p to 369p. Elsewhere in the sector, **News International**, which owns half of BSkyB and publishes *The Times*, jumped 14p to 764p on the back of a better than expected recovery in interim profits after a healthy contribution from BSkyB and lower interest costs.

The composite insurers were unsettled after **Sun Alliance**, down 9p to 333p, moved to strengthen its balance sheet with a £155 million convertible bond issue. Dealers said the move reminded the market that both Commercial Union and **Royal Insurance**, 11p weaker at 269p, could make hefty cash calls. **General Accident** fell 3p to 595p and **BAT Industries**, which owns Eagle Star, eased 18p to 976p.

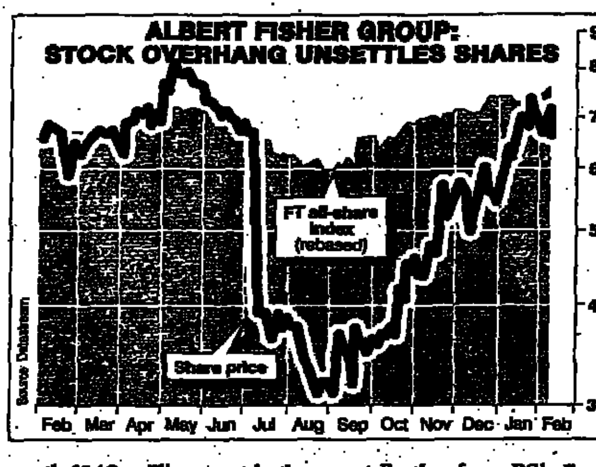
J Mowlem was a good market, firming 3p to 83p against the trend. Informed City whispers suggest the stock is worth watching, with talk of an internal shakeup in the pipeline.

Shares in **Albert Fisher** slid 6p to 66p on reports of a stock overhang. There was talk of a large line of stock on offer, said to be between 4.5 million and 5 million shares, depressing shares in the foods group. Other food retailers were depressed in a dull sector still suffering from worries that value-added tax could be introduced on food. **J Sainsbury** dived 19p to 529p, after reports that the Sainsbury family had attempted to place some stock, while **Argyll**, the parent of the Safeway supermarkets chain, lost 13p to 361p. **Tesco** 9½p to 234p and **Asda** eased 1½p to 59¾p.

Shares in **Storehouse** plunged 11p to 194p in late trading, amid market speculation that David Dworkin, chief executive, is about to resign.

The oil sector provided one of the few firm spots, with prices boosted as Opec raised the prospect of a cut in output. **BP** added 3½p to 271p as the City anticipated solid results when it reports fourth-quarter figures tomorrow. **Enterprise Oil**, which announced North Sea asset disposals on Monday, climbed 9p to 474p, and **Lasmo** 2p to 170p. **Brabant Resources** jumped 10p to 39p after a bid from fellow USM-listed **Aberdeen Petroleum**, down 1¼p to 11¼p. **Aran Energy** firmed 2½p to 23½p. But **British Gas** slipped 6½p to 283½p, after a critical report from Ofgas, the industry watchdog.

PHILIP PANGALOS



Wolseley lost 19p to 555p on reports that SG Warburg and Smith New Court, the stockbrokers, among others, had downgraded the company's profits. Smith New Court was said to have trimmed its pre-tax profits estimate for the plumbing to building merchanting group by £5 million to £100 million, against an actual profit of £91.3 million last time.

Sun Alliance launches bond

By SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

SUN Alliance, Britain's largest and strongest composite insurance group, has launched a £155 million convertible bond, joining most of its fellow composites by raising funds without resorting to the stock market.

The size of the 15-year issue was raised from £140 million to £155 million, the maximum allowed under shareholder pre-emptive rights rules, due to strong demand. The bonds carry a 7.25 per cent coupon, compared to the shares' yield of about 6 per cent, and are convertible into the insurer's ordinary shares at 390p, a 15.38 per cent premium to the share price. The shares fell 9p to 333p.

Scott Nelson, general manager, corporate finance at Sun Alliance, said the funds could add five points to the solvency margin, which analysts put at 57 per cent.

The insurer gave warning that further "significant" mortgage indemnity losses were likely for 1992. Stephen Dias, an insurance analyst at Goldman Sachs, estimates losses of £160 million to £170 million, compared with £320 million last time, of which £120 million reflected a change in accounting policy.

Many European insurers have accessed the capital markets for funds recently. Sun Alliance's convertible follows last month's £70 million issue by Royal Insurance and last year's £200 million and £140 million preference share issues by Commercial Union and General Accident, respectively.

This week, AXA, France's second largest insurance group, issued a Fr3.65 billion convertible with a maturity of seven years and 304 days. Unlike the Sun Alliance deal, AXA is offering shareholders bonds, on a one-for-11 basis. The bonds are priced at Fr1.285, compared with the closing share price of Fr1.114. The bond issue carries a 6 per cent coupon. Holders can convert into shares, on a one-for-one basis, any time during the life of the bond, and if conversion does not take place, they can redeem the bonds on maturity at 110 per cent of the issue price.

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WALL STREET

New York — Wall Street shares moved lower in mid-morning trading but the Dow Jones industrial average recovered from its session low. Analysts blamed the decline on a consolidation of last week's strong gains.

Ned Collins, of Daiwa, said: "I think bonds are key to this market and they've been giving it up a little bit. That probably makes some people nervous."

The Dow was 19.99 points lower at 3,417.55.

☐ **Tokyo** — Japanese shares ended sharply lower in thin trade as the market sobered up after the euphoria of last week's discount rate cut. The Nikkei average closed 259.46 points, or 1.50 per cent, lower at 17,022.27.

☐ **Frankfurt** — The Dax index closed 5.58 points lower at 1,641.58 after reaching a six-month high on Monday. *(Reuter)*

	Feb 9 midday	Feb 8 close
AMP Inc	58¾	59¾
AMR Corp	63⅞	65
Abbott Labs	26⅜	26⅝
Aetna Life	52⅝	52⅞
Ahmanson (HF)	19⅞	20⅜
Air Prod & Chem	45⅞	46⅛
Albertson's	50⅞	50⅞
Alcan Alumnm	19⅛	19⅛
Alco Standard	41¼	42⅛
Allied Signal	63⅝	64⅛
Alum Co of Am	75⅛	76⅛
Amax	19⅜	19⅝
Amerada Hess	51¼	51⅛
Amer Brands	36⅝	37
Amer Cyanamid	53	52⅞
Amer El Power	34¼	34⅞
Amer Express	25	25⅜
Amer Genl Corp	57⅛	58⅞
Amer Home Pr	62⅛	62
Amer Intl	124⅛	124
Amer Stores	41	41½
Amer T & T	53⅞	53⅞
Ameritech	72⅞	72⅞
Amoco	54⅝	54⅛
Anheuser-Busch	56⅝	57⅛
Apple Computer	57⅛	56⅞
Archer Daniels	25⅝	25⅞
Arkla	8⅛	8⅛
Armco	8	8⅛
Armstrng Wrld	32⅛	33½
Asarco	28⅛	28⅜
Ashland Oil	27⅛	27⅜
Atl Richfield	117⅝	118⅛
Auto Data Pro	55⅞	55⅝
Avery Dennison	27⅝	27⅛
Avon Products	58⅝	58⅛
Baker Hughes	22	22⅝
Baltim Gas & El	24⅝	25⅛
Banc One	52⅜	52⅞
BankAmerica	52⅛	52⅝
Bank of NY	56⅝	56⅛
Bankers Tr NY	69⅞	69⅝
Barnett Banks	43⅝	43⅞
Bausch & Lomb	56⅝	57
Baxter Intl	31⅛	31½
Becton Dickinsn	78⅛	78⅝
Bell Atlantic	52⅜	52⅛
BellSouth	52⅝	52⅝
Black & Decker	18⅝	19⅜
Block (H&R)	40⅞	41
Boeing	35⅝	35⅜
Boise Cascade	26	26
Borden Inc	26½	26⅛
Bristol Myrs Sq	58⅝	58⅛
Browning Ferris	27⅛	27⅛
Burlington Nthn	47⅛	47⅛
CBS	199⅝	199⅞
CNA Financial	97	97⅛
CPC Intl	46	46⅝
CSX	76	77⅛
Campbell Soup	41	41½
Can Pacific	13⅜	13⅜
Cptl Cities ABC	508	507
Cptl Holdings	81	80⅝
Carolina Pwr	30	30⅛
Caterpillar	57⅝	58⅝
Central & SW	30⅝	30⅞
Champion Intl	31½	31½
Chase Manhat	31	31½
Chemical Bk	42⅛	42⅞
Chevron Corp	76	76
Chrysler	39⅞	40⅞
Chubb Corp	93⅞	93⅞
Cigna Corp	66	66
Citicorp	25⅛	26
Clorox	45⅝	45⅝
Coastal Corp	24⅝	24⅞
Coca Cola	40⅞	41
Colgate-Palmolive	60⅞	60⅞
Columbia Gas	21	21
Commonw Ed	25⅞	26
Compaq Comp	49⅝	48⅝
Comp Ass Intl	24	24⅞
Conagra	27⅝	28⅛
Cons Edison	34⅝	34½
Cons Nat Gas	47⅛	47⅛
Cons Rail	59⅝	59⅝
Cooper Inds	51	51⅜
Corning Inc	33⅛	35
Crown Cork	39⅝	40⅝
Dana Corp	49⅛	49⅝
Dayton Hudson	81⅛	83⅛
Deere	46⅛	46⅛
Delta Air Lines	51⅛	53⅛
Deluxe Corp	43	43⅛
Detroit Edison	34⅝	35
Digital Equip	43⅝	42⅝
Dillard Dept St	50⅝	50⅝
Disney (Walt)	46⅝	47⅝
Dominion Res	41⅛	41⅛
Donelley (RR)	28⅝	29⅝
Dover Corp	47	46⅝
Dow Chemicals	58	58⅝
Dow Jones	30⅝	30
Dresser	19⅝	19⅝
Duke Power	37⅝	37⅝
Dun & Bradstreet	57⅝	58⅛
Du Pont	49⅝	49⅝
Eastman Kodak	53	53⅝
Eaton Corp	81⅛	81⅛

	Feb 9 midday	Feb 8 close
Emerson Elec	57⅛	57⅛
Engelhard Corp	41⅛	42⅛
Enron Corp	54⅛	55⅛
Entergy Corp	34⅛	34⅛
Ethyl Corp	29⅝	29⅝
Exxon	62⅛	62⅝
FMC Corp	47⅛	47⅝
FPL Group	38⅛	38⅝
Federal Express	58⅝	59⅝
Fed Nat Mtge	80⅝	80⅝
First Chicago	42⅝	43⅛
First Interstate	53⅝	54
First Union Rlty	11⅛	11⅛
Fleet Finl Grp	32⅛	33⅛
Fluor Corp	42⅝	42⅛
Ford Motor	49⅝	50
GTE Corp	35⅝	35⅝
Gannett	53⅝	54⅛
Gap Inc Del	35⅝	36⅛
Gen Cinema	36⅛	37
Gen Dynamics	113⅛	114⅝
Gen Electric	86⅛	86⅛
Gen Mills	66	66
Gen Motors	38⅛	38⅝
Gen Reinsurance	123⅝	122⅛
Gen Signal	64⅛	64⅝
Genuine Parts	36⅛	36⅝
Georgia Pac	65⅛	65
Gillette	54⅛	55⅛
Glaxo ADR	18⅝	19
Goodrich (BF)	51⅛	51⅛
Goodyear Tire	70⅝	72
Grace (W&R)	40	40⅝
Grt Atl Pac Tea	23½	23⅛
Great Wstn Fin	17⅝	18⅛
Halliburton	32⅝	33⅛
Heinz (HJ)	41⅛	42
Hercules	69⅝	69⅝
Hershey Foods	50⅝	50⅝
Hewlett Packard	68⅛	67⅝
Hilton Hotels	50⅝	51⅛
Home Depot	63⅛	64
Homestake	11⅛	11⅛
Honeywell	34⅛	34⅛
Household Intl	64⅛	64⅝
Houston Inds	47	48⅛
Humana	20⅛	21
ITT Corp	74⅛	75⅛
Illinois Tool	73⅝	74⅛
INCO	23⅛	23⅝
Ingersoll Rand	34⅛	35
Inland Steel	23⅝	24⅛
Intel Corp	110⅝	106⅛
IBM	54⅛	52⅛
Intl Flav & Fr	108⅛	110⅝
Intl Paper	68⅝	69⅛
James River VA	17⅝	18⅝
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	44⅛	44⅝
K Mart	24⅛	24
Kellogg	62⅛	62
Kerr-McGee	46⅝	47
Kimberly-Clark	57⅝	59⅝
Knight-Ridder	63	64⅝
Lilly (Eli)	54⅛	55⅛
Limited Inc	27⅛	28⅛
LIN Brdcstng	79⅛	80⅝
Lincoln Nat	74⅛	76⅛
Litton	50⅝	50⅛
Liz Claiborne	41⅛	41½
Lockheed Corp	57⅝	58
Louisiana Pac	75⅛	76⅛
MCI Commun	39⅝	39⅝
Marriott	24⅛	24⅝
Marsh & McLnn	95⅝	95⅝
Martin Marietta	69⅝	70⅝
Masco Corp	34	34⅛
May Dept St	73⅛	73⅛
Maytag Corp	15⅝	15⅝
McCaw Cellular	33⅛	34⅛
McDonalds	50	50⅛
McDonnell D	53⅛	54⅛
McGraw Hill	61⅛	61⅛
Mead Corp	43	43⅛
Medtronic	85⅛	86
Mellon Bk	57⅛	57⅛
Melville Corp	50⅝	50⅝
Merck Inc	38⅛	38⅛
Merrill Lynch	66⅛	67⅛
Minnesota Mine	108⅛	109
Mobil Corp	65⅝	65⅝
Monsanto	54⅛	55⅛
Morgan (JP)	63⅝	63⅛
Motorola Inc	53⅛	53⅛
Natl Medical	10⅛	10⅛
Natl Semi	10⅛	10⅝
Natl Service Ind	26⅛	26⅛
Navistar Int	3	2⅝
NBD Bancorp	34⅝	34⅛
NY Times A	29⅝	28⅛
Newmont Mng	38⅛	39⅛
Nag Mohawk	20⅝	20⅝
Nike B	81½	81⅛
NL Industries	4⅛	4⅛
Nordstrom	40⅛	41¼
Norfolk Sthrn	64	65
Nthn State Pwr	44⅝	45⅛
Norwest Corp	46⅛	46⅛
Nynex Corp	85	85
Occidental Pet	18⅛	19⅛
Ohio Edison	24	24

	Feb 9 midday	Feb 8 close
Oracle Systems	30	31½
Oryx Energy Co	20⅝	20⅝
PNC Financial	31½	31½
PPG Industries	67	67⅛
Paccar Inc	63⅛	64
Pacificorp	20⅝	20⅛
Pac Enterprises	20⅛	20⅝
Pac Gas & Elect	33⅝	33⅝
Pac Telesis	45⅝	46⅝
Pall Corp	21	21⅛
Panhandle East	19⅛	20⅛
Paramnt Comm	47⅛	47⅝
Parker Hannifin	33⅛	33⅝
Penney (JC)	77⅝	77⅝
Pennzoil	54½	54⅛
Pepsico	39⅝	40⅝
Pfizer	62	62⅛
Phelps Dodge	54⅛	55
Philadel Elec	28⅝	28⅝
Philip Morris	74⅝	74⅛
Phillips Pet	27⅛	28
Pitney Bowes	41⅛	41½
Polaroid	29⅝	30⅝
Price Co	35⅛	37
Primerica	56⅝	58⅝
Procter & Gmbl	52	52⅝
Pub Serv E & G	32	32⅛
Quaker Oats	64	64⅛
Ralston Purina	48⅝	48⅛
Raychem Corp	41⅛	41⅛
Raytheon	53⅝	53⅝
Reebok Intl	36⅛	37
Reynolds Metals	55⅛	57⅛
Roadway Srvcs	70⅛	71⅛
Rockwell Intl	29⅛	29⅛
Rohm & Haas	59⅝	60⅝
Royal Dutch	84⅛	85⅝
Rubbermaid	32⅛	32⅛
Safeco Corp	62⅝	63⅛
St Paul's Cos	82⅛	83⅛
Salomon Inc	41½	41⅝
Santa Fe S Pac	14⅝	14⅛
Sara Lee Corp	28⅝	28⅝
Stecorp	46⅝	46⅝
Schering Plough	58⅝	58⅛
Schlumberger	59⅝	61⅛
Scott Paper	40⅛	40⅛
Seagram	27⅛	27⅛
Sears Roebuck	49⅛	49⅝
Shell Trans	51⅛	52⅝
Sherwin Wllms	33⅝	33⅝
Skyline Corp	21⅝	21⅝
Snap-On-Tools	33⅝	33⅝
Southern Co	39⅝	39⅝
S'thwestern Bell	69⅝	69⅝
Sprint Corp	27⅛	28⅛
Stanley Works	42⅛	42
Sun Company	29⅛	30
Suntrust	44⅛	45
Supervalu	32⅛	32⅝
Syntex Corp	20⅝	19⅝
Sysco Corp	25	25⅛
TRW Inc	54	54
Tandem Comp	13⅛	13⅝
Tandy Corp	28	27⅝
Telecom Corp	2⅝	2⅛
Teledyne	20⅝	20⅛
Temple Inland	52⅝	53⅝
Tenneco	44⅛	43⅝
Texaco	62⅛	62⅛
Texas Inst	58⅝	58⅝
Texas Utilities	44⅛	44⅝
Textron	43⅛	43
Time Warner	34⅝	34⅛
Times-Mirror	32⅛	33⅛
Timken	29⅛	29⅝
Torchmark	62⅛	62⅛
Toys R Us	39⅛	39⅛
Transamerica	50⅛	50⅝
Travelers Corp	28⅝	29
Tribune	52⅛	54⅛
Tyco Labs	45⅛	46⅛
UAL Corp	128	130⅛
UST Inc	30⅛	30⅛
USX Marathon	18⅝	19
Unilever NV	105⅛	105⅛
Union Camp	46	47⅛
Union Carbide	17⅝	17⅝
Union Pacific	60⅛	61½
Unisys Corp	12⅝	12⅝
USAIR Group	16⅝	16⅛
USF&G Corp	14⅝	14½
US Life	41	41⅛
US West	40	40
United Tech	47⅛	47⅝
Unocal Corp	26⅛	26⅛
Upjohn	29	29⅝
VF Corp	56	55
Wal-Mart Stores	64⅛	65⅝
Warner-Lambert	65⅛	65⅝
Waste Mgmnt Inc	36⅛	36⅛
Wells Fargo	94	95⅛
Westinghouse El	14	14
Weyerhaeuser	42⅝	42⅛
Whirlpool	51	48⅝
Whitman	14⅛	14⅛
Winn Dixie	77⅝	77⅛
Woolworth	29	28⅛
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	30⅛	30⅛
Xerox	66⅛	67⅛

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Friendly Hotels .... 182p (+16p)
AAF Inds .... 222p (+13p)
Hunting .... 233p (+13p)
ADT .... 505p (+12p)

FALLS:

Telemetrix .... 101p (-12p)
Kleinwort Benson .... 347p (-18p)
Allied Lyons .... 589p (-14p)
RMC Group .... 581p (-16p)
Iceland Frozen .... 666p (-12p)
J Sainsbury .... 529p (-19p)
BOC .... 736p (-13p)
Boots .... 490p (-12p)
Glaxo .... 653p (-14p)

Closing Prices Page 24

BRITISH FUNDS

GOVERNMENT stocks continued to drift lower, unsettled by sterling's continued weakness. Prices also slipped back after the latest producer prices. January's 1.5 per cent increase in input prices gave rise to renewed inflationary fears and prompted some switching into index-linked issues, allowing them to buck the trend.

The gilt future drifted sharply lower, touching £100²⁷/₃₂, before recovering to finish the day with a deficit of six ticks at £101⁴/₃₂, on a volume of 35,000 contracts for the March series.

Among shorter dated securities, Exchequer 9¾ per cent 1998 lost seven ticks to £111¹⁶/₃₂, while Treasury 9 per cent 2012 fell 14 ticks to £102⁸/₃₂ at the longer end. This represents a rise in yield of four to five basis points for five-year and 20-year maturities.

1992/93 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
104	100	Treas 12½% 1993	102	-	12.15	5.69
100	95	Fund 6% 1993	100 ‡	-	5.99	5.66
107	103	Treas 13¾% 1993	105	-	12.94	5.46
102	96	Treas 8¼% 1994	102	...	8.26	5.45
110	104	Treas 14½% 1994	109 ‡	-	13.30	5.52
110	103	Exch 13½% 1994	109	-	12.37	5.63
105	98	Treas 10% 1994	105	-	9.48	5.64
110	103	Exch 12¼% 1994	109 ‡	-	11.38	5.72
105	96	Treas 9% 1994	105	-	8.53	5.73
111	102	Treas 12% 1995	111	-	10.80	5.93
98	88	Gas 3% 1990-95	98	+	3.10	4.55
109	99	Exch 10¼% 1995	109	-	9.36	6.02
116	106	Treas 12¾% 1995	116	-	10.94	6.13
120	109	Treas 14% 1996	120	-	11.68	6.38
125	113	Treas 15¼% 1996	125	-	12.19	6.48
120	108	Exch 13¼% 1996	119	-	11.08	6.48
111	98	Conv 10% 1996	111	-	9.01	6.64
122	109	Treas 13¼% 1997	122	-	10.86	6.78
113	100	Exch 10½% 1997	112	-	9.30	6.77
108	94	Treas 8¾% 1997	107	-	8.14	6.78
132	117	Exch 15% 1997	131	-	11.41	7.02
112	97	Exch 9¾% 1998	111	-	8.75	6.96
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
102	98	Treas 7¼% 1998	101	-	7.14	6.78
100	86	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	99	-	6.76	6.79
137	123	Treas 15½% 1998	136	-	11.33	7.37
121	107	Exch 12% 1998	120	-	9.92	7.45
111	97	Treas 9½% 1999	110	-	8.59	7.26
123	109	Exch 12¼% 1999	122	-	10.01	7.59
116	101	Treas 10½% 1999	115	-	9.11	7.40
115	100	Conv 10¼% 1999	114	-	8.98	7.48
109	94	Conv 9% 2000	108	-	8.31	7.44
128	114	Treas 13% 2000	128	-	10.16	7.91
113	99	Treas 10% 2001	112	-	8.89	7.86
128	115	Treas 14% 1998-01	128	-	10.93	7.45
111	98	Treas 9¾% 2002	110	-	8.79	8.07
25	21	Treas 8% 2003	24	-	8.02	8.02
113	100	Treas 10% 2003	112 ‡	-	8.92	8.25
120	107	Treas 11½% 2001-04	119	-	9.64	8.17
70	59	Fund 3½% 1999-04	70	-	4.95	7.31
109	98	Conv 9½% 2004	108	-	8.79	8.39
109	96	Conv 9½% 2005	107	-	8.80	8.42
128	116	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126	-	9.87	8.64
97	85	Treas 8% 2002-06	97	-	8.23	8.39
122	110	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	120	-	9.72	8.57
100	89	Treas 8½% 2007	99	-	8.53	8.54
135	123	Treas 13½% 2004-08	133	-	10.12	8.74
LONGS (over 15 years)						
104	93	Treas 9% 2008	103	-	8.70	8.69
95	85	Treas 8% 2009	94	-	8.48	8.64
103	93	Conv 9% 2011	102	-	8.79	8.73
103	93	Treas 9% 2012	102	-	8.80	8.74
72	63	Treas 5½% 2008-12	71	-	7.68	8.48
92	81	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	91	-	8.48	8.62
130	118	Exch 12% 2013-17	128	-	9.33	8.93
101	91	Treas 8¾% 2017	99 ‡	-	8.94	8.82
UNDATED						
45	39	Consols 4%	45	-	8.85	...
40	35	War Ln 3½%	39	-	8.83	...
63	59	Conv 3½%	61	-	5.66	...
29	24	Consols 2½%	29	-	8.44	...
29	24	Treas 2½%	28	+	8.71	...
INDEX-LINKED						
133	122	Treas IL 2% 1994	133	-	...	0.99
197	176	Treas IL 2% 1996	197 ‡	-	1.65	2.34
108	100	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	108	-	2.37	2.91
165	139	Treas IL 2½% 2001	163	+	2.90	3.22
159	135	Treas IL 2½% 2003	159	+	3.06	3.33
109	103	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108	+	3.18	3.45
164	137	Treas IL 2% 2006	164	+	3.28	3.49
148	124	Treas IL 2½% 2009	148	+	3.45	3.64
153	128	Treas IL 2½% 2011	153 ‡	+	3.51	3.68
126	109	Treas IL 2½% 2013	125	+	3.55	3.71
133	112	Treas IL 2½% 2016	133	+	3.60	3.75
128	107	Treas IL 2½% 2020	128	+	3.65	3.78
105	88	Treas IL 2½% 2024	105	+	3.68	3.80
107	91	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	106	+	3.69	3.81

RECENT ISSUES

Intl Food Machinery (51)	62	-1
Mauritius Fund (£10½)	725	...
New City & Com Inv Tst	88	-3
New City & Com Wts	23	-2
Prime People Warrants	1½	...
Scottish Asian Warrants	245	...
RIGHTS ISSUES		
ASDA n/p (53)	6½	-1¼
Burton n/p (60)	13	-½

FT-SE VOLUMES

Abbey Natl	2,100	Coats Vly	1,000	Legal & Gn	545	Scot & New	417
Alld-Lyons	2,100	Cm Union	725	Lloyds Bk	2,400	Scot Power	2,100
Anglian W	431	Courtaulds	1,000	MB Cardn	2,800	Sears	1,500
Argyll Gp	6,000	De La Rue	221	Marks Spr	5,200	Svrn Trent	3,200
Arjo Wiggn	2,400	Eng China C	839	NFC	815	Shell Trans	7,600
AB Foods	88	Enterpr Oil	2,500	NatWst Bk	7,200	Siebe	1,000
BAA	1,200	Fisons	2,300	Nat Power	3,300	SmKl Bch	4,600
BAT Inds	3,500	Forte	6,000	Nth Wst W	922	Smith Nph	1,900
BOC	1,100	GRE	1,700	Nthrn Fds	1,200	Smith (WH)	989
BP	12,000	GUS A	251	P & O	1,200	Sthrn Elec	1,300
BT	5,300	Genl Acc	1,900	Pearson	502	Std Chartd	330
BTR	3,900	Gen Elec	7,400	PowerGen	2,200	Sun Allnce	6,000
Bk of Scot	1,500	Glaxo	4,900	Prudential	3,200	TI Gp	1,400
Barclays	9,300	Granada	2,000	RTZ	2,300	TSB	5,900
Bass	2,400	Grand Met	4,400	Rank Org	1,100	Tate & Lyle	529
Blue Circle	2,000	Guinness	3,800	Reckitt Col	411	Tesco	7,400
Boots	1,800	HSBC	2,900	Redland	943	Thames W	1,600
Bowater	712	Hanson	8,300	Reed Intl	1,900	Thrn EMI	689
Brit Airwys	4,700	ICI	3,400	Rentokil	524	Tomkins	3,400
Brit Gas	5,200	Inchcape	542	Reuters	1,900	Unilever	1,100
Brit Steel	9,400	Kingfisher	2,100	Rothmans	276	Utd Bisc	853
Burmah Cast	164	Kwik Save	2,100	Ryl Ins	5,500	Vodafone	919
Cable Wire	2,200	LASMO	4,600	Ryl Bk Scot	2,800	Wellcome	978
Cadbury	1,100	Ladbroke	1,300	Sainsbury	7,300	Whitbd 'A'	703
Carlton Cm	2,200	Land Secs	2,000	Scot Hydro	2,000	Wlms Hld	543

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3425.39 (-12.15)
S&P Composite .... 445.94 (-1.91)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 17022.27 (-259.46)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 5789.52 (+2.87)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 97.9 (-0.1)

Sydney: AO .... 1583.9 (+24.5)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 1641.58 (-5.58)

FT 30 share: .... 2194.0 (-32.1)

Brussels:
General .... 5959.27 (-43.95)

Paris: CAC .... 498.45 (-2.89)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 481.2 (+0.9)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1381.38 (-17.25)
FT 500 .... 1522.19 (-18.14)
FT Gold Mines .... 81.6 (+3.0)
FT Fixed Interest .... 110.63 (-0.19)
FT Govt Secs .... 95.03 (-0.31)
Bargains 34101
SEAQ Volume 694.9m
USM (Datastrm) .... 129.31 (-1.26)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
February 8	February 19	May 20	June 1

Call options were taken out on 9/2/93: Anglo Pacific Res, Avesco, Cannon St, Caverdale, Collens, Enterprise Comp, Fenner, Ibstock Johnsen, Kalon, Ladbroke, Lep, Lilleshall, London Fin & Inv, Newman Tonks, P&P, Premier Cons Oil, Starmin, Tadpole. Put: Rhino. Puts & Calls: Bridon, Domino Printing, Tarmac, WPP.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 93	2870.0	2870.0	2818.0	2828.0	14362
Previous open interest: 57478	Jun 93	2879.0	2879.0	2834.0	2841.0	767
Three Month Sterling	Mar 93	94.17	94.18	94.10	94.12	22657
Previous open interest: 299267	Jun 93	94.58	94.60	94.50	94.55	15506
	Sep 93	94.72	94.72	94.62	94.68	7793
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 93	96.68	96.69	96.66	96.67	580
Previous open interest: 20058	Jun 93	96.50	96.50	96.46	96.47	734
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 93	92.00	92.03	91.98	92.01	25916
Previous open interest: 458528	Jun 93	92.91	92.94	92.87	92.91	26693
US Treasury Bond	Mar 93	107-28	107-28	107-27	107-24	30
Previous open interest: 705	Jun 93				106-17	0
Long Gilt	Mar 93	101-08	101-10	100-27	101-02	39448
Previous open interest: 60492	Jun 93	102-24	102-24	102-11	102-16	137
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 93	110.12	110.16	110.08	110.16	425
	Jun 93	109.55	109.56	109.47	109.56	1309
German Govmt Bond	Mar 93	93.12	93.25	93.09	93.23	39689
Previous open interest: 149151	Jun 93	93.34	93.45	93.33	93.44	1593
Three month ECU	Mar 93	90.79	90.82	90.71	90.77	1240
Previous open interest: 15499	Jun 93	91.76	91.79	91.71	91.75	482
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 93	94.70	94.77	94.68	94.76	5754
Previous open interest: 45593	Jun 93	95.12	95.20	95.10	95.20	2535
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 93	96.94	96.95	96.60	96.89	12185
Previous open interest: 33685	Jun 93	96.84	96.84	96.49	96.71	31

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 76.6 (day's range 76.2-76.6).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 9	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6527-2.6594	2.6527-2.6561	⅜-¼ds	1⅛-1⅜ds
Brussels	48.68-48.89	48.72-48.82	7-11ds	24-30ds
Copenhagen	9.0170-9.0570	9.0280-9.0490	6⅜-8⅛ds	15¼-14½pr
Dublin	0.9693-0.9752	0.9730-0.9752	57-67ds	179-204ds
Frankfurt	2.3566-2.3658	2.3613-2.3644	⅜-¼ds	1⅛-1⅜ds
Lisbon	213.02-214.21	213.56-214.00	107-115ds	343-364ds
Madrid	167.20-168.20	167.27-168.11	86-92ds	269-281ds
Milan	2171.30-2188.70	2171.30-2180.00	7-9ds	25-28ds
Montreal	1.8025-1.8129	1.8109-1.8129	0.09-0.04pr	0.14-0.04pr
New York	1.4230-1.4295	1.4285-1.4295	0.37-0.36pr	1.06-1.04pr
Oslo	9.9890-10.0210	9.9990-10.0210	2-3¼ds	7½-9¼ds
Paris	7.9840-8.0242	8.0100-8.0240	3⅛-3⅜ds	10⅜-11⅜ds
Stockholm	10.5950-10.6950	10.6050-10.6280	2½-3¼ds	8½-9¼ds
Tokyo	173.29-174.74	173.29-173.51	½-⅜pr	1⅜-1⅛pr
Vienna	16.57-16.68	16.58-16.63	1⅜-2½ds	5⅜-7⅛ds
Zurich	2.1856-2.1927	2.1856-2.1886	¼pr-par	½-¼pr

Source: Extel. Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4253-1.4278
Australia dollar	2.1303-2.1335
Bahrain dinar	0.5305-0.5425
Brazil cruzeiro *	24608.9-24609.2
Cyprus pound	0.70-0.71
Finland marka	8.2045-8.3205
Greece drachma	312.25-319.25
Hong Kong dollar	11.031-11.041
India rupee	42.16-43.12
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4355-0.4455
Malaysia ringgit	3.7538-3.7601
Mexico peso	4.4-4.5
New Zealand dollar	2.7898-2.7973
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.2745-5.4005
Singapore dollar	2.3491-2.3523
S Africa rand (fin)	6.51-6.67
S Africa rand (com)	4.4705-4.4766
U A E dirham	5.1655-5.2895

Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.4934-1.4945
Austria	11.65-11.67
Belgium (Com)	34.20-34.24
Canada	1.2680-1.2685
Denmark	6.32-6.33
France	5.595-5.600
Germany	1.653-1.654
Hong Kong	7.733-7.734
Ireland	1.466-1.468
Italy	1524.0-1529.0
Japan	122.20-122.25
Malaysia	2.6315-2.6340
Netherlands	1.858-1.859
Norway	7.00-7.01
Portugal	149.7-149.9
Singapore	1.6468-1.6478
Spain	117.2-117.7
Sweden	7.42-7.43
Switzerland	1.5325-1.5335

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6 Finance Hse 7½
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 4½ Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¾ ; 3 mth 5½ . Sell: 2 mth 5¼ ; 3 mth: 5⅜ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5¹⁹⁄₃₂-5¹⁷⁄₃₂	5½-5⅜	5⅜-5⁵⁄₁₆	5⅛-5⅛	
Sterling Money Rates: Interbank:	6¼-6¼	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆
	6¼-6¼	6⅛-6¼	6⅛-6¼	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆

Overnight: open 6, close 4.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6⅛	n/a	6⅛	5¹³⁄₁₆	5⅝
Sterling CDs:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6⅛-5⁷⁄₈	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5⅝
Dollar CDs:	3.08-3.05	n/a	3.12-3.09	3.25-3.22	3.55-3.52
Building Society CDs:	6¼-6⅛	6¼-6⅛	6⅛-6⅛	5¹³⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆	5¹¹⁄₁₆-5¹¹⁄₁₆

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 29, 1993 Agreed rates Feb 24, 1993 to Mar 23, 1993 Scheme I: 8.32 %. Schemes II & III: 8.20 %. Reference rate Jan 1, 1993 to Jan 29, 1993 Scheme IV & V: 7.0 %.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3¼-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞
Deutschemark:	8¼-8⅛	8¼-8⅛	8⅛-8⅛	7¹⁵⁄₁₆-7¹³⁄₁₆	8⅛-7⅞
French Franc:	11¾-11⅛	11⅝-11⅛	11¹¹⁄₁₆-11⁹⁄₁₆	10⅝-10⅝	12⅝-10⅞
Swiss Franc:	5⅝-5⅛	5⅝-5⅛	5⅝-5⅛	5⅜-5⅛	5⅛-4⅞
Yen:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2¹⁵⁄₁₆	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-2⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $327.60-328.10 Close: $328.40-328.90 High: $329.10-329.60 Low: $327.45-327.95 Krugerrand: $327.50-329.50 (£228.00-230.00)
Sovereigns: Old $78.50-81.50 (£53.00-55.00) New $78.50-81.50 (£53.00-55.00)
Platinum: $362.90 (£254.40) Silver: $3.70 (£2.585) Palladium: $115.45 (£80.95)

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Lyon..	600	27	42	52	26	42	49
(*589½)	650	10	22	32	60	78	82
ASDA	57	6	11	14	4½	6½	9
(*60)	67	3	7½	10	9	11	14
Bass	600	38	53	67	20	33	40
(*609½)	650	14	31	43	48	64	67
Boots	500	18	27	38	23	37	40
(*490)	550	5	12	20	63	72	75
Br Airways	280	30	35	41	8	18	23
(*298½)	300	19	26	31	16	28	32
BP	240	36	41	44	3½	8	11
(*270½)	260	22	28	33	8½	15	19
	280	10½	19	24	19	25	28
Br Steel	70	11½	13	17	5	9½	9
(*74½)	80	5	9	12	10	13½	15
C & W	700	47	65	77	18	36	44
(*720½)	750	21	40	52	44	63	70
CU	600	20	34	42	34	44	53
(*597½)	650	5½	17	25	73	79	86
Courtauld	550	49	60	72	13	26	31
(*581½)	600	18	35	46	35	52	57
GKN	460	19	28	37	26	34	38
(*457½)	500	6	16	23	58	62	65
Grnd Met	420	41	54	60	8	18	23
(*444½)	460	17	31	40	26	36	42
ICI	1100	87	107	115	30	48	68
(*1170)	1150	50	80	90	54	71	94
	1200	30	58	69	85	102	123
Kingfshr	500	50	59	65	8	21	28
(*526)	550	20	33	42	29	45	52
Ladbroke	200	14	23	29	18	26	33
(*199)	220	7	16	21	33	39	45
Land Sec	460	39	45	51	6½	19	23
(*484½)	500	14	23	29	24	43	44
M & S	330	16	24	29	12	21	24
(*333)	360	6	12	17	31	39	39
Sainsbury	550	13	26	35	31	45	49
(*528½)	600	4	12	18	76	82	84
Shell	550	51	60	67	6½	13	20
(*595)	600	15	30	37	28	35	42
Smkl Bch	460	18	34	46	27	34	40
(*448½)	500	7	20	30	54	61	66
Storehse	200	10	18	23	21	25	30
(*194)	220	5	11	16	35	40	41
Trafalgar	80	12	15	18	5	8½	12
(*86½)	90	7	11	14	10	16	18
Unilevr	1150	36	62	80	42	54	63
(*1147½)	1200	17	39	57	75	86	92
Utd Bisc	360	19	25	34	17	25	27
(*362)	390	6½	14	19	39	44	48

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAA	750	38	59	69	5	18	29
(*770½)	800	8	31	43	27	40	51
BAT Ind	950	36	52	66	9	40	50
(*976)	1000	10	26	47	36	71	79
BTR	550	16	25	37	6½	22	28
(*557)	600	2	8	16	45	58	62
Br Aero	260	11	29	40	17	34	45
(*260)	280	5	24	34	26	48	57
Br Telcm	390	28	37	42	2½	7	14
(*415)	420	6	18	24	10	19	28
Cadbury	460	10	19	29	10	28	32
(*459½)	500	2½	7	14	44	57	60
Guinness	460	22	35	46	6	23	30
(*469½)	500	4½	18	28	30	45	51
GEC	280	17	25	29	2	7	13½
(*292)	300	4	13	17½	9	17	24
Hanson	260	4½	11½	16½	5½	13	17½
(*257½)	280	1	5½	8½	22½	27	30
LASMO	160	15	23	28	4½	14	-
(*170)	180	4	13	28	14	26	-
Lucas	140	12	18	23	3½	13	16
(*145)	160	2	10½	15	15	25	29
P & O	550	28	46	56	10	35	46
(*562½)	600	6	23	36	38	66	76
Pilkingtn	100	10	19	23	4½	9	15
(*106½)	110	5½	13	18	8½	15	21
Prudential	300	13	19	24	4½	16	20
(*309)	330	2	7	13	24	36	39
RTZ	650	35	47	62	7	29	38
(*674½)	700	8	23	38	31	59	67
Scot New	420	29	43	51	3½	11	20
(*438)	460	5	20	29	20	30	41
Tesco	240	5	14	18	8	18	21
(*234)	260	2	7	12	27	34	35
Thames W	500	9	25	30	10	22	34
(*508)	550	1	7½	11	55	56	70
Vodafone	390	11	29	37	10	23	31
(*390)	420	3	16	23	32	42	49

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat	360	13	19	27	21	27	32
(*355½)	390	4	10	16	45	48	51
Amstrad	20	5½	6½	7	1	1	2½
(*24)	25	2	3½	4	3½	4	4½
Barclays	420	23	30	38	23	33	45
(*421½)	460	6½	16	23	55	60	69
Blue Circ	220	13	20	27	14	26	32
(*219)	240	7	13	20	27	38	45
Br Gas	260	29	32	35	2	7½	10
(*283½)	280	14	18	23	7	15	19
	300	5½	9	14	19	29	31
Dixons	220	13	21	29	14	19	28
(*216)	240	6	14	17	28	32	40
Eurotnnl	460	40	55	77	17	30	40
(*460)	500	21	41	57	48	60	72
Forte	180	15	19	24	7	17	21
(*189½)	200	6½	11	17	19	29	33
Glaxo	600	70	90	108	10	23	30
(*651½)	650	33	60	79	29	44	54
	700	16	38	56	60	73	83
HSBC	550	43	55	70	16	33	47
(*575½)	600	18	32	48	42	63	75
Hillsdwn	140	13	18	22	7½	17	20
(*143½)	160	5	10	14	21	30	34
Lonrho	70	8½	12	14	5	8	11
(*75)	80	4	8½	10	11½	14½	16
Reuter	1350	70	107	132	39	70	95
(*1383½)	1400	43	80	110	59	100	123
R-Royce	130	8	11½	16	9½	13½	16½
(*128)	140	4½	8½	12	16	19½	22½
Sears	100	5½	11	14	4	9	10
(*102)	110	3½	6	9	11	14	17
Thm Emi	850	38	58	69	19	31	52
(*864½)	900	15	34	44	48	59	82
TSB	160	8½	13	17	10	13	17
(*163)	180	3½	7	11	24	26	32
Vaal Reefs	30	4½	6	6½	1½	4	4½
(*34)	35	2	4	4½	5½	6	8
Wellcome	850	57	87	115	17	41	55
(*892½)	900	27	53	80	40	64	79

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Fisons	220	29	38	46	13	25	31
(*235)	240	18	27	37	24	37	42

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Eastrn Elc	430	9	-	-	6	-	-
(*433½)	460	2	13	20	31	37	51

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	280	22	31	35	6	11	18
(*295)	300	10½	19	24	15	20	28
Scot Pwr	220	10	18	22	5	10	17
(*223½)	240	2½	9	13	19	22	30

FT-SE INDEX (*2831½)

	2750	2800	2850	2900	2950	3000
Calls						
Feb	94	46	17	7	2½	2
Mar	117	77	51	32	16	9
Apr	159	123	93	46	32	21
May	177	145	114	88	66	36
Jun	-	154	-	100	-	48
Puts						
Feb	7	17	46	84	119	141
Mar	26	46	71	103	133	147
Apr	40	59	87	109	144	156
May	47	61	81	119	157	164
Jun	-	88	-	133	-	195

February 9, 1993 Tot: 35247 Calls: 18776 Puts: 16471 FT-SE Calls: 5340 Puts: 5952
*Underlying security price.

COMMODITIES

REPORT: Robusta coffee futures saw earlier heavy losses trimmed in late trading as New York began to recover from recent heavy losses. London continued to be less volatile than New York, partly due to lower fund participation. Again weaker sterling prompted some early buying on old crop wheat futures with physical markets remaining quiet and lacklustre.

LONDON FOX

COCOA

Mar	713-712	May	805-803
May	723-722	Jul	820-818
Jul	737-735	Sep	835-833
Sep	752-749	Dec	860 SLR
Dec	769-768		
Mar	790-789		Volume: 4216

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	877-875	Nov	858 SLR
May	870-869	Jan	897-800
Jul	856-855	Mar	unq
Sep	862-859		Volume: 5009

RAW SUGAR (FOB)

C Czarnikow		Oct	190.0-88.0
Spot: 175.7		Dec	196.0-92.0
Mar	183.0-81.0	Mar	197.0-93.0
May	192.0-90.0	May	198.0-97.0
Aug	194.0-92.0		Volume: 123

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	242.8-42.0
Spot: 254.5		Dec	243.3-41.5
Mar	251.2-50.5	Mar	243.8-41.5
May	253.8-53.5	May	246.8-44.0
Aug	257.1-56.5		Volume: 489

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 9

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	81.51	101.73	121.11
(+/-)	+0.48	+7.86	+2.05
Eng/Wales:	81.53	101.71	120.15
(+/-)	-0.84	+7.67	+1.93
(%)	-9.4	+2.0	-16.6
Scotland:	78.98	101.88	123.77
(+/-)	-3.69	+8.96	+2.13
(%)	-95.7	-9.9	-7.5

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Mar	105.8	105.8	Jul	100.0	100.0
Jun	105.0	105.0			Volume: 4

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	143.20
May	144.55
Jun	145.25
Sep	111.40
Nov	113.40
	Volume: 152

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	138.10
May	139.00
Sep	109.15
Nov	112.15
Jan	115.00
	Volume: 55

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Feb	161.50
Apr	157.30
Jun	147.30
Aug	148.30
Oct	unq
	Volume: 50

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	43.0	43.7
May	45.5	46.5
Apr	unq	87.5
		Volume: 129

RUBBER
No 1 RSS CIF (p/kg)
Mar 69.75-69.25

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): Prices crept lower ahead of last night's inventory figures in very dull trading.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.30	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Feb)	18.35	-0.20
Brent 15 day (Mar)	18.25	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	20.00	-0.20
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	20.00	-0.20

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	193 (n/c)	195 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	173 (-1)	174 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Mar	173 (-1)	174 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	172 (-1)	173 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	69 (n/c)	71 (n/c)
Naphtha	177 (-1)	179 (-1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd
GAS OIL

Feb	169.25-69.50	May	169.00-70.00
Mar	170.25-70.50	Jun	168.75-69.00
Apr	169.25-69.50	Jul	169.75-70.75
			Vol: 16367

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	18.25-18.27	Jun	18.43 SLR
Apr	18.30-18.31	Jul	unq
May	18.36 BID		Vol: 34198

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Feb	188.00-89.00	May	199.50-201.0
Mar	190.00-93.50	Jun	201.50-202.0
Apr	197.00-99.00		Vol: 160

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Feb 93	1345	1332	1345
Mar 93	1365	1345	1366
Apr 93	1355	1335	1345
Jul 93	1195	1185	1195

Vol: 422 lots. Open int's: 2717 Index 1309 +10

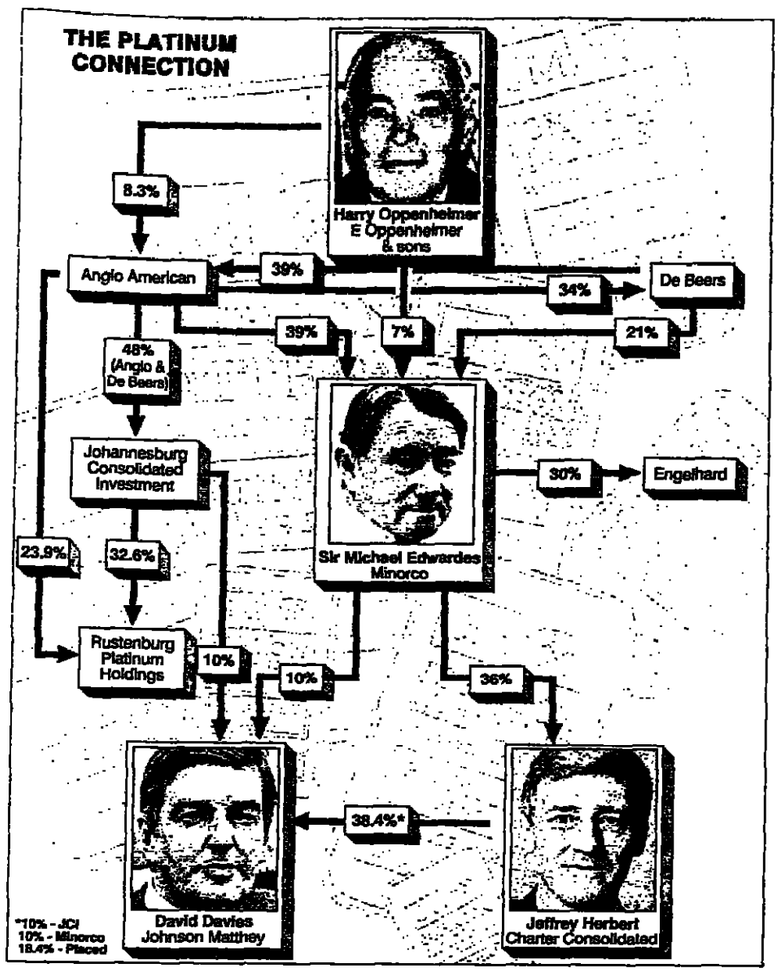
LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1565.0-1565.5	1588.5-1589.5	597150
Lead (£/tonne)	289.50-290.00	299.50-299.75	45325
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1096.5-1097.0	1115.5-1116.0	271475
Tin ($/tonne)	5830.0-5835.0	5885.0-5890.0	10435
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1212.5-1213.0	1234.0-1234.5	974800
Nickel ($/tonne)	6099.0-6100.0	6160.0-6165.0	62850

هكذا من الأصل

Taking their partners for the latest platinum shuffle

Colin Campbell traces the steps involved in Charter Consolidated's disposal of its 38.4 per cent stake in Johnson Matthey



In London investment circles in the sixties and seventies, Charter Consolidated used to be known — somewhat unkindly — as the dustbin of Anglo American, the South African mining group whose tentacles embrace gold, diamonds, platinum, base metals and a host of worldwide industrial interests. The attitude appeared to be that if Anglo American did not want it, be it a copper mine in central Africa or a British asset that did not fit in Anglo's master plan, Charter would be happy to offer it a home.

So it came to pass, in a 1979 re-shuffle swapping Anglo overseas assets for South African assets, that for the princely sum of 35 million rand (£20 million), Charter acquired an original 28 per cent stake in Johnson Matthey, the precious metals group.

Yesterday, Charter made the final clearance from its "dustbin", and sold its entire JM interest — which down the years had crept up to 38.4 per cent — for £342 million.

The nub of the deal is that 10 per cent of JM is bought by Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, a South African mining house in its own right, and from which Charter acquired its original 28 per cent JM stake. A further 10 per cent of JM goes to Minorco, and the 18.4 per cent balance has been placed through the London market by Barclays de Zoete Wedd and UBS Phillips & Drew.

All the parties are variously related through a complex web of cross holdings and there is no fundamental alteration to the world-wide platinum market, in which they are significant players. In the world of platinum — the more things change, the more they stay the same.

The reshuffle has been effectively blessed by the anti-trust authorities in Brussels and America, of whom formal soundings were taken and from whom no backlash is expected. There is no cry of "cartel", and only Charter shareholders have to approve the deal.

The structure of Charter's sale does not flout London's takeover panel rules that otherwise would have required a full bid for JM. So JM remains its own master, albeit with two new directors to represent the new 10 per cent shareholders.

Charter has exchanged a passive investment, over which it had no management control, for cash that it can usefully add to its current balances to give a war chest of at least £400 million. In essence, Charter realises a £220 million profit on its JM disposal, which includes the release from reserves of an original purchase discount of £22 million. On a post tax basis, Charter secures a cash income of £12 million, instead of £6 million of dividend income on its JM shares. It also derives advance corporation tax advantages, sees its proforma net worth rise by 50 per cent from £394 million to £591 million, equivalent to 558p a share, and is freed to make industrial acquisitions.

Sir Michael Edwardes, chairman of Charter and a director of Minorco, played a role in the talks, but the real bargaining was transacted by Charter's "three wise men" — Jeffrey Herbert, Charter's chief executive, Charles Parker, commercial director and Nigel Robson, finance director.

Mr Herbert said he had to be circumspect yesterday in thinking aloud about what Charter might or might not do with its cash pile. Though a special dividend to Charter shareholders is not impossible, there would be tax implications that probably rule it out.

> "The reshuffle has been effectively blessed by the anti-trust authorities in Brussels and America. There is no cry of cartel'

It would hardly be imaginative, however, if Charter used its cash merely to buy out the 36 per cent stake held by Minorco. Whatever Charter's final intentions, yesterday's message is that whatever it does will be in the best interests of *all* its shareholders, and that "we are vigorously considering all the options".

For JM, the final outcome of who owns it will be greeted with much relief. The 10 per cent direct relationship with JCI, which owns 32.6 per cent of Rustenburg Platinum Holdings, the world's largest platinum mine and with which JM has a commercial/marketing relationship that runs well into the next century, is entirely logical.

JM is within shooting distance of being included in the FT-SE 100 — an ambition that David Davies, JM's chairman, hopes soon to realise. The broader spread of shareholders should improve the shares liquidity and help move JM up from its current place in the Footsie queue.

Minorco, controlled by Anglo and De Beers, neatly now has feet in two rival platinum camps. It has long held a 30 per cent stake in Englehard, the north American platinum metals group, and until yesterday held an indirect stake of just under 14 per cent in JM. Its direct 10 per cent stake in JM, while also holding 30 per cent of Engelhard, surprisingly does not disturb the anti-trust authorities. Their attitude was that the shareholding stakes within the "box" of the Anglo-related family can be shuffled around as much as the parties like — as long as Minorco does not seek to control one or the other. The point at which anti-trust interest would be triggered only comes when the economic interest of one of Minorco's platinum holdings is likely to be influenced.

Minorco's ability to appoint one director to JM's board, in recognition of the 10 per cent stake for which it pays £90.6 million, is not without significance. Hank Slack, Minorco's chief executive, echoing a general investment comment, acknowledges that JM has sound long-term prospects. The 10 per cent stake will be equity accounted. Mr Slack said yesterday: "We now control our own destiny".

The second buyer, JCI, has been locked into South African mining and industrial interests since it was founded in 1889. For JCI, its 10 per cent in JM stake is a cultural breakout. In time, other overseas ventures are likely.

Cost penalties and South African Reserve Bank restrictions on the transfer of capital abroad undoubtedly checked what ambitions JCI might have had for taking an even larger slice of JM. For its part, JCI is making a first cash payment of £48.6 million, to be funded from existing offshore resources and offshore borrowings. The second £48.6 million tranche will be made on the third anniversary of the deal's completion.

JCI's payment arrangement, which do not therefore require use of South Africa's financial rand, has the blessing of the SA Reserve Bank — not too readily given these days. Particularly important is the cementing of the JCI-Rustenburg-JM connections.

Charter assured the market yesterday that it had scoured the world for other buyers, long before JCI and latterly Minorco said they wanted a slice of JM. But, metal-related groups able to find £1 billion to make a full bid, that would not have incurred anti-trust attention and that would have been able to demonstrate a commercial synergy, were nowhere to be found.

The market's guessing game now focuses on Charter, and what it might buy with its "dustbin" proceeds in order to complement its industrial interests, which include railway sleepers.

A suggestion that Vickers, where Mr Herbert is a non-executive director, or Daf might be of interest to Charter put a twinkle in Mr Herbert's eye. "Why, then I could have railways, tanks and trucks to play with," he quipped.

TEMPUS

Ignoring the signals

THE spectre of inflation in yesterday's producer prices figures put the brakes on sterling's continuing fall. The sharp rise in factory gate prices injected some doubt into the mind's of speculators who believe that base rates are on a one-way trip to 4 per cent.

The inflationary pressures in the figures are impossible to ignore and were reflected in the 0.4 point jump in the pound's trade-weighted index after they were announced yesterday morning, and the £½ fall in the gilts market. The 7.2 per cent annual rise in input prices is an inevitable consequence of the fall in sterling. The annualised rise since Black Wednesday, excluding oil, though largely a one-off affair, is nevertheless more than 12 per cent. A large proportion of January's weakness was caused by the devaluation in the green pound which is prompting food manufacturers to consider raising prices.

So far, though, British industry has absorbed much of this increase by squeezing margins and improving unit labour costs. In addition, most efficient businesses hedge their foreign currency exposure so they will not feel the full impact of sterling's devaluation until the second half of the year. As a result, output prices are stable at 3.5 per cent, well within the Treasury's expected range. This cannot continue for ever, particularly because the pound's recent fall has increased overseas costs still further.

Even so, the inflationary pressures are still relatively mild and investors who believe they will prompt a U-turn in the government's decision to stimulate a recovery at any price should think again.

If the economy does not respond to 6 per cent base rates, the government will cut rates again. Inconvenient signals from producer prices can be ignored just as easily those already being broadcast by M0.

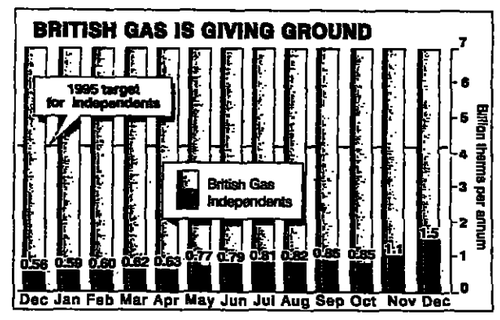
British Gas

THE demand from Ofgas that British Gas should open the interruptible supply market to competition from independents has heaped more uncertainty on the group, whose shares have miserably underperformed the energy sector this year.

The argument has highlighted the rapid expansion of the independent gas supply sector. The volume of independent gas supply has almost tripled in 1992, to 1.5 billion therms a year. Independents now account for almost half the firm supply market for big industrial users and have already taken up to 12 per cent of the smaller users' market even though it was only opened up by the DTI last August.

The impact on British Gas's finances is rising. Profits were down by perhaps £75 million last year due to the growth of the independents. This could rise to as much as £200 million by 1995.

Ofgas is wrong in its assumption that the independents are as keen to expand in the interruptible supply market. The independents are seeking the most lucrative industrial contracts in the country and sell gas at fixed discounts to British Gas prices. They will be less inclined to operate on the lower margins in the interruptible supply market until they have a much broader customer base willing to pay premium prices for peak supply. Until then, British Gas's market share will not fall to 40 per cent as agreed with the OFT. This is yet another thorny issue for the MMC and will help to leave gas shares in limbo.



Reuters

SOLID results from Reuters have failed to quell nagging doubts about its future growth. In the coming year revenue will be buoyed up by sterling's weakness, although this will be offset due to currency hedging. Real growth though is dependent on new products. Dealing 2000-2 and Globex have received much attention, but their impact on revenue and profits may have been overstated. Development costs mean they will not contribute until 1994 at earliest, and thereafter the take-up may not be large enough to swell revenues substantially.

By refusing to raise prices this year, Reuters has turned its back on potential revenue growth. Given the dominance of the company in many of its markets, this policy may be misguided.

The good news is that the group has a large cash balance, which will provide funds for product development and acquisitions. Unless this unearths an exciting product, though, the prospective rating of 20 does not look justified given the company's longer-term prospects.

Sun Alliance

DESPITE the increasing rigour of the new accounting standards, insurance companies can still exploit a loophole that polishes their balance sheets while expanding their debts.

Sun Alliance was the latest to employ the device yesterday with its issue of a £155 million euroconvertible. Under current practice, these bonds are counted as debt until they are converted. Sun Alliance is using the funds to subscribe for equity in its general insurance subsidiary. This will boost the solvency margin, the fundamental measure of the company's stability, by 5 points to more than 60 per cent.

Admittedly, the effect on Sun Alliance is marginal: the group's gearing will rise 7 points. Other insurance groups have recently used this technique to much greater effect, particularly BAT Industries which borrowed £450 million to repair the shattered solvency figures of its Eagle Star subsidiary.

Overuse of this device could create a serious financial imbalance. Investors should not rely on a single solvency figure as a guide to financial stability.

Oil companies

ABERDEEN Petroleum's offer for Brabant Resources — the first hostile bid of the year — is a welcome first step in the move to consolidation among the smaller oil stocks.

There are more than 20 small oil stocks on the market whose financial performance has been in the doldrums. A few mergers would create substantial cost-savings and could boost market liquidity in the shares of the survivors. The only flaw in the argument is that few of the independents have the financial muscle to buy weaker rivals.

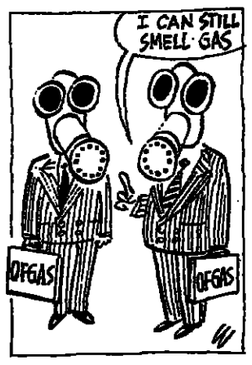
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Double helping of Kellys

THE former head of European equity sales at S G Warburg is due to resurface as a senior salesman at NatWest Markets on March 8, following Roger Aylard, oil specialist, who joined last month. Paul Kelly, 33, left Warburg last week. His appointment could cause confusion at NatWest Markets, which already has a Paul Kelly — known as Paul C. Kelly — on the USA desk. Meanwhile, Kelly, a Scot and a keen golfer, is off to St Lucia with his family for the intervening weeks. His appointment creates a new position at NatWest Markets, which is expanding its sales team. Kelly says: "NatWest is probably more client orientated. I'll feel at home there because there are lots of other Scotsmen and the atmosphere is quite down to earth."

Cars and the crash

THE continued crash of sterling is good news for those seeking to raise cash by selling their Ferraris. Sotheby's reports that turnover is up at its monthly sales, even if prices have not yet followed. Favourable currency rates are bringing European buyers, particularly Belgians and Germans, back to the classic car market. Malcolm Barber, of Sotheby's, says: "We sold five Ferraris at our last sale, all overseas." Americans have also started to show interest as the dollar surges. "We see the same cars go back and forth across the Atlantic in seven-year cycles," Barber says. "They went to the



States in the early eighties, came back here in the late eighties and will probably go back again now." The next sale is on February 20.

Clubbing together

A NEWLY established club for Japanese and English businessmen, the 5:01 Club, will meet in London this evening. 5:01 clubs have been running in America since 1988, and the Los Angeles branch alone has 4,000 members. The London club aims to encourage the Japanese and English to meet in an informal environment and will convene on the second Wednesday of each month in members' offices. This month's meeting will be held at Denton Hall, the law firm based in Chancery Lane. Andrew Oros and Sam Jarman, London club founders, believe the need for a London club is acute. Jarman says: "Despite having the largest concentration of Japanese companies in Europe, no such type of organisation existed in London. One reads regularly about the lack of frank discussion of issues surrounding the Japanese presence in Europe, about misconceptions on both sides, and not least importantly, about the isolation many Japanese feel in London during their overseas postings."

Card clues

BLUSHING and bewildered recipients of a saucy rhino valentine card this weekend may like a few advance clues as to senders' identities. The card, featuring a soulful-looking rhino designed by Gray Jolliffe, has proved popular among City brokers who are ordering large quantities at £10 each. The price includes a fat donation to the Save the Rhino appeal organised by Tusk, the African wildlife conservation charity in aid of the endangered Zimbabwean rhino. Tusk will also take the strain of posting all the cards on time. Rhino fans not too bashful to admit to sending the card include Alby Caior, a broker at NatWest Markets, Gordon Dawson, a broker at Lloyd Thompson and David Cleverly, a Bowrings broker.

A FAX could become the next essential kitchen appliance if a campaign to be launched in America by Sharp Consumer Electronics takes off. That is, if Americans do not prefer to locate the machines in smaller rooms where the waste paper provided by junk faxes could be really handy. To convince them, Sharp is putting out dire laments about the rising cost of stamps. At $495.99, the NX-1 kitchen fax would cover a mere 1,710 regular 29-cent stamps.

WENDY VAIZEY

BUSINESS LETTERS

Why business people use Heathrow

From Mr Eric Martin

Sir, In the article on sharper airline competition (February 3), Robert McCrindle makes the statement that journeys to Stansted and Gatwick airports are longer than to Heathrow.

While this may be true in distance terms, it is certainly not true in time. From most parts of London, it is much quicker to travel by rail to either Stansted or Gatwick or both. In fact from the City both can be more easily and quickly reached than the so-called "City airport." Both are also more easily accessed by road from the outer London area when ease of parking is included.

I suggest the main reason that business people use Heathrow in preference to any of the other airports is the greater frequency of flights which allows more flexibility in planning, particularly when one is not sure at what time one will wish to return.

On competition, I was extremely glad that British Airways took over the Dan-Air scheduled services as they have continued to operate them from Gatwick, even if the service has declined. It did not seem likely that either of the independents, British Midland or Air UK, would have done this even if they had offered to bid for Dan-Air.

Incidentally, how independent are they? I believe they are partly owned by foreign flag carriers (KLM and SAS).

Yours faithfully,
ERIC MARTIN
Concawe
Madouplein 1
B — 1030 Brussels
Belgium

Flights tax would have to be higher

From Mrs Evelyn Atlee

Sir, The letter from Mr Cavendish proposing a £1 per head tax on flights into Heathrow is an admirable concept. However the figures show that the tax would need to be in the order of £10 to £15 per head to persuade even a few travellers to switch to Stansted or Gatwick.

For most passengers the cost of travel to Heathrow is much less than that to the other airports. Add to this the fact that Heathrow offers a wide range of destinations at very competitive prices, a £1 tax would have no effect.

There are two other points to be considered with this type of tax. Firstly, where would the money go? With 45 million passengers a year at £10 per head I can foresee the politicians queuing up to spend it. Secondly, if a noise tax is introduced it will be argued by the aviation industry that they then have a licence to make noise.

As Mr Cavendish points out, Heathrow is in the wrong place and the noise affects 500,000 people. The government and the MP's know this but they are not prepared to put a limit on Heathrow's operations.

This is demonstrated by the government's latest night flight proposals which if implemented, will permit unlimited night operations by most feeder aircraft into Heathrow.

Yours faithfully,
EVELYN ATLEE,
Chairman,
The Federation of Heathrow Anti-Noise Group,
95A Walton Road,
East Molesey, Surrey.

Big companies should aid small

From Mr Noel Robertson

Sir, The logic of John Lidderdale's letter (Business letters, February 3) should not go unnoticed. His assertion that the results of increased efficiency of production are likely to be increased unemployment and permanent recession seems difficult to challenge. We need to explore his suggestion that the problem can be solved by larger businesses actively seeking to create jobs in parallel with streamlining and cost-cutting.

One corollary to his thesis is that unemployment must be seen as a permanent part of our society. The unemployed must be regarded as of equal importance to the economy as those in work and means found to reward them accordingly; better still to use them in a positive fashion.

Another is that it is difficult to find business activities which are new and have potential for growth. Much of this enterprise comes from individuals many of whom fail because of inexperience, lack of business skill, technical skill or absence of pairs of hands.

Could not some means be found to bring the potential entrepreneur in touch with unemployed people with skills who could help in the development of the new business?

Could not the role of large businesses outlined in John Lidderdale's letter be linked to some small-business starts, the larger business providing technical and management expertise and nurturing the new idea to point of take-off?

Yours faithfully,
NOEL F. ROBERTSON,
Woodend,
Juniper Bank
Walkerburn.

Bundesbank is creating havoc

From Mr John Gibbons

Sir, As an urban economist, I found Anthony Harris's article (February 5) regarding the squirrel and Buba (the Bundesbank) of dual interest. The squirrel seeks to wreak its will on my garden, it even takes the morsels of bread put out for the birds. And Buba? It seeks to wreak its will on fragmented Europe; it sweethearts the franc, plays feline squirrels and mouse with the punt, badmouths the pound, hugs and yet drowns the lira, and even punishes Herr Kohl for his leveraged buyout of East Germany.

But I can defeat the squirrel. A loaf taken from the freezer is indigestible to him, whereas birds seeking only morsels peck away to their hearts' content. And if I were the EC? I think I would be man enough to debar membership to any government not fully in formal control of both its monetary and fiscal policies! This slice of frozen bread should be indigestible enough to stop even Buba in its tracks.

Allons, M Delors et vos confrères! Let us have a gently reflating ERM zone, free of Buba meddling. This will better serve the interests of France's long-term unemployed than the next leveraged buyout (that a merger of Banque de France and Buba would represent). As a Germanophile, I believe that even the Bundesrepublik would benefit.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN GIBBONS,
Appleyard Conway Ltd,
113 Thornbury Road,
Osterley,
Middlesex.

Export prices hold key to ending recession

From Mr Michael Kinch

Sir, Interest rates fall, the overseas value of the pound falls, the price of exports falls and business confidence shoots up because this means exports will rise and the recession will soon be over.

If reducing the prices of exports really is as effective as all this implies, why don't our exporters just do it anyway?

Yours faithfully
MICHAEL KINCH,
Aviation and Defence Marketing Consultant,
32a Chiltern Road,
Hitchin, Herts.

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No	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Highland Dist	Breweries	
2	Nth Brkn Hill	Mining	
3	Woodside	Oils, Gas	
4	Town Centre	Property	
5	Hnch Whamp	Business Serv	
6	Paterson Zoch	Chems,Plas	
7	Gencor	Mining	
8	Johnson Clean	Business Serv	
9	Atlas Equip	Industrial	
10	Swire Pacfc 'A'	Industrial	
11	Durban	Mining	
12	Mandarin Orntl	Hotels,Cat	
13	Westpac	Banks,Disc	
14	Northamber	Electrical	
15	Cable Wireless	Electrical	
16	Premier	Oils, Gas	
17	P & P	Electrical	
18	Pifco	Electrical	
19	Lister	Textiles	
20	Jardine Strat	Fin Trusts	
21	Admiral	Electrical	
22	Bellwinch	Building,Rds	
23	Mowlem (J)	Building,Rds	
24	Isotron	Industrial	
25	Severn Trent	Water	
26	LASMO	Oils, Gas	
27	Headline	Newspapr,Pub	
28	Br Mohair	Textiles	
29	Platon	Industrial	
30	South West	Water	
31	Northumbrian	Water	
32	St Helena	Mining	
33	Arcadian	Property	
34	Blyvoors	Mining	
35	Laporte	Chems,Plas	
36	Harmony	Mining	
37	Hardy O & G	Oils, Gas	
38	Yorkshire W	Water	
39	Suter	Industrial	
40	MIM	Mining	

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Please take into account any minus signs

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Sharp falls

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began February 1. Dealings end February 12. §Contango day February 15. Settlement day February 22. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

1992/93 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
399	249½	Abbey Ntl	355	-11	10.5	3.9	12.2
205	154	Allied Irish	196	-2	...	5.8	11.9
197½	106	Aus New Z	149½	+6½	...	6.2	...
3725	1906¼	BankAmerica	3725 †	+50	...	...	...
205	141	Bk of Ireland	197	-2	...	6.0	31.5
345	320	Bk Leumi UK	325	...	16.0	7.5	...
136	97	Bank Scotland	127½	-2	4.3	4.5	20.1
464	274	Barclays	422	-12	21.1	6.7	...
6	1½	Benchmark	3	-½	...	...	...
209	28	Brown Shipley	33	...	...	...	...
21	10	Carlisle	19	-½	...	...	...
440	295	Cater Allen	436	...	36.0	8.0	...
103	61	Cattles	103	+1	3.8	4.9	15.1
2225	912½	Chase Manh	2225 †	+37½	...	...	...
1850	537½	Citicorp	1837½	+31½	...	...	...
292	225	Close Bros	291	...	9.5	4.4	13.0
£113½	8687½	Commerzbk	£113½	+12½	...	3.5	...
£283½	£214	Deutsche Bk	£283½	+250	...	2.2	...
80	11½	First Nat Fin	80 †	+1½	...	...	...
1104	493	Full Bank Y	1019	+18	...	0.5	57.0
421	230	Gerrard Nat	415	-1	21.0	6.7	...
584	236	HSBC	576	+2	...	3.4	23.7
577	313	HSBC HK	554	-1	...	3.6	32.8
315	202	Hambros	293	-7	13.8	6.3	13.0
355	308	Joseph (L)	353	...	15.8	6.0	...
118	54	King Shaxson	118	...	5.0	5.6	...
367	212	Kleinwort Ben	347	-18	16.0	6.1	30.4
573	346	Lloyds	517	-17	16.7	4.3	17.6
77	40	Lon Scot Bk	76 †	-1	3.0	5.3	-
372	258	Nat Aust Bk	372	+12	...	5.4	12.9
485	251	Nat West	433	-9	17.5	5.4	59.8
785	418	Provident	777	-7	25.0	4.3	17.8
45	25	Rea Bros	45	...	0.5	1.5	...
251	137	Ryl Bk Scot	231	-5	8.8	5.1	...
1490	1043	Schroders	1490	+2	18.0	1.6	17.3
672	364	Stand Chart	610	-15	20.0	4.4	15.7
179	115	TSB	162½	-3½	6.4	5.4	-
200	38	Union Disc	102	-3	13.5	...	...
615	403	Warburg SG	600	-13	18.0	4.0	17.8
216	137	-do- 6% 'A'	211½	-2	...	3.8	...
6725	3087½	Wells Fargo	6725	+175	...	1.6	...
183	99	Westpac	146	+5	...	5.6	-
255	168	Wintrust	198	...	9.3	6.4	7.5

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
712	526	Allied-Lyons	589	-14	20.0	4.5	13.7
656	472	Bass	610	+2	18.9	4.1	13.3
213	146	Boddington	208	-2	6.6	4.2	13.2
400	243	Bulmer (HP)	369	...	9.0	3.3	17.0
159	111	Burtonwd Brw	153	+1	4.4	3.9	11.2
291	194	Devenish (JA)	275	...	7.8	3.8	-
107	68	Eldridge P 'A'	89	-2	...	4.9	23.6
84½	47	Fosters Brewing	64	...	...	2.1	-
440	340	Fullr Sm 'A'	350	...	...	2.6	14.7
518	360	Grand Met	444	-17½	12.3	3.7	14.7
424½	283	Greenalls Grp	409	-3	11.7	3.8	13.5
530	405	Greene King	528	+1	11.6	2.9	13.7
644	450	Guinness	470	-9	10.8	3.1	13.5
346	245	Hardy Hansn	277	...	7.9	3.8	15.4
145	113	Heavitree	113	...	3.0	3.7	-
105	78	-do- 'A' LV	78	...	...	5.2	10.9
305	191	Highland Distl	267	+3	6.0	3.0	17.8
48	21	Hoskins Brew	42	...	...	...	30.2
335	250	Invrgordn Dis	273	-11	6.5	3.2	15.4
220	151	Macallan-Glen	171	-1	0.7	0.6	34.5
620	380	Macdn Martn 'A'	418	...	8.8	2.8	23.1
720	515	Mansfield	681	...	13.6	2.7	14.6
269	166	Mrston Thmp	234	-1	4.9	2.8	13.7
477	394	Matthew Clark	421 †	-1	15.7	5.0	12.6
351	195	Mrrydwn W	300	...	...	2.8	21.2
493	330	Morland	488	...	8.4	2.3	19.5
10½	5½	Paramount	9	...	...	2.1	16.0
1030	665	SA Breweries	937	+74	...	2.9	-
492	380	Scot & New	438	-7	16.1	4.9	11.9
200	145	Taunton Cider	188	...	...	3.4	17.6
241	148	Vaux Group	225	-7	9.3	5.5	15.5
249	165	Wetherspoon JD	247	...	...	2.6	20.0
490	347	Whitbread 'A'	475	-6	16.9	4.8	13.4
1430	1090	-do- 'B'	1100	...	16.9	2.1	31.0
660	510	Wolvrhmptn D	593	...	11.4	2.6	16.7
545	453	Young 'A'	510	-3	14.5	3.8	22.3

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
96	60	Abbey	95	...	...	1.4	34.3
27	9	Albrighton	21	-1	...	...	...
128	54	Allen	100	...	...	6.7	10.8
182	53	Amec	89	-3	10.2	...	8.2
27	2½	Anglia Sec	8	...	...	...	...
192	85	Ashtead	175	-2	4.1	3.1	23.5
151	100	Atwoods	137	...	5.0	4.9	19.8
221	123	BPB Ind	210	-3	11.2	...	53.4
102	59	Baggeridge Brk	77	-2	3.1	5.4	25.0
31	15	Bailey (Ben) Con	31	...	0.5	2.4	...
118	68	Barcom	97	-2	1.2	1.7	17.6
130	34	Barratt Devs	126	-1	2.0	2.1	14.0
392	193	Bellway	392	+2	11.5	3.9	21.7
32	14	Bellwinch	31	+3	...	...	...
355	186	Berkeley Gp	352	...	5.0	1.9	23.3
100	45	Bett Bros	45	...	...	...	1.8
89	27	Blockleys	38	-1	3.3	...	37.8
294½	121	Blue Circle	219	-4	11.2	6.8	21.0
245	140½	Boot (Henry)	245	...	...	2.9	13.4
108	62	Breedon PLC	97	-2	4.6	6.3	18.8
132	66	Br Dredging	92	+1	7.4	10.7	12.0
180	42	Brit Fittings	65	-1	5.3	...	...
126	60	Bryant	122	-2	4.8	5.3	25.8
80	38	CALA	60	...	2.3	5.1	...
249	187	CRH	226	...	...	3.9	12.6
48	14	Cakebread Rby	43	...	...	...	...
82	18½	Cosmin	25	...	4.7	...	...
143	51	Countryside	115	-1	4.1	4.9	29.7
66	23	Crest Nicholson	52	...	0.0	...	...
58	14	Cussins	40	...	...	...	...
6	½	Dunton	3	...	...	...	...
45	12	Edmund Hldgs	24½	+½	1.8	...	10.0
211	132	Epwin	181	...	...	4.9	14.9
54	23	Erith	34	...	2.0	...	...
296	220	Eve Group	296	+1	...	4.4	10.6
88	25	Evered Bardon	48	-1	5.6	...	25.9
19	3	Explaura	4½	-½	...	...	...
135	64	Freeman Gp	98	...	...	...	...
79	40	Galliford	48	+1	4.3	11.9	19.3
98	75	Gibbs & Dandy	78	...	...	...	...
925	578	Gleeson (MJ)	700	...	12.7	2.4	10.4
114	67	Hewden-Stuart	96½	...	3.1	4.4	20.1
63	28	Hewetson	36	...	2.6	...	35.3
28	15	Hey & Crofts	16 #	...	...	...	...
388	128	Heywd Wim	206	-1	12.5	8.1	18.9
106	29	Higgs & Hill	63	...	9.0	...	9.6
39	23	How Gp	31	...	2.5	...	10.7
20	10	Howard Hldgs	19	...	0.5	3.5	...
96	36	Ibstock Johnsen	52	...	6.0	...	...
43	14½	Jarvis	17	+1	0.5	...	...
240	109	Laing (J)	216	-2	9.0	5.6	11.2
35	7½	Lilley	7 #	...	2.0	...	2.4
122	77	Ln Clydeside	77 †	-1	4.5	7.8	20.0
26	4½	Lovell (YJ)	14½	+½	...	...	6.6
295	180	Manders	282	+2	7.0	3.3	19.6
149	57	Marley	108	-1	4.2	5.2	27.2
97	47	Marshalls	71	-1	...	9.4	23.6
155	101	Maunders (J)	130	...	4.9	5.1	11.9
219	76	McAlpine (A)	141	...	10.3	...	9.8
75	19	McCarthy & S	26	...	0.5	6.1	...
433	181	Meyer Intl	311	-3	16.5	7.1	32.0
14	4	Miskin Gp	4	...	...	...	...
171	52	Mowlem (J)	83	+3	10.5	...	...
78	19	NSM	73	-1	...	...	...
165	90	Newman Tnks	128	+2	...	8.3	-
337	146	Persimmon	246	...	8.6	4.7	20.3
36	19	Phoenix Timber	25	...	...	...	...
1625	1150	Pochins	1475	...	29.0	2.7	8.9
155	66	Prowting	89	+2	3.4	5.1	...
23	7½	Quiligotti	5	...	...	...	...
669	383	RMC Gp	581	-16	20.0	4.6	21.6
137	67	Rome Ind	108	+½	6.0	7.4	18.1
96	21	Ramus	27	...	...	...	...
565	300	Redland	460	-13	25.0	7.2	28.6
101	61	Roskel	72	...	4.3	8.0	9.6
248	152	Rugby Group	225	-8	6.4	3.8	17.0
48	35	Svrd-Svea?	33	...	...	...	5.0
88	50	Sharpe & Fisher	75	...	4.0	7.1	...
137	70	Sheffield Insl	137	+2	5.4	5.3	35.4
89	53	Sheriff Hldgs	89	...	...	3.0	13.5
86	53	Sherco	83	...	...	8.4	12.8
272	188	Smart (J)	228	...	8.5	5.0	10.4
15	4½	Starmin	5½	+½	0.3	7.0	6.9
161	51	Tarmac	113	-1	5.5	6.5	46.7
238	129	Tay Homes	189	-3	5.8	4.1	10.4
163	54	Taylor Woodrw	77	-1	9.5	...	10.9
688	398	Tilbury Dougls	528	...	30.0	8.3	17.4
48	16	Torex Hire	23	...	...	23	...
229	105	Travis Perkins	186	-2	8.0	5.7	26.3
58	20	Try Group	30	-1	6.0	...	4.1
38	28	Tudor	28	...	...	...	...
106	45	Vibroplant	63	-1	3.6	7.6	11.0
55	12	Ward Hldgs	30	-4	0.5	...	...
43	23	Waterhouse	33	...	...	...	...
475	265	Watts Blake	467	-3	9.3	2.7	34.2
19	9	Wescol	9	...	...	...	...
129	45	Westbury	116	...	...	5.6	...
19	4½	West Scotfield	5	...	...	...	...
13	2	Wiggins	5	...	...	...	...
481	215	Wilson Bowdn	398	...	8.7	2.9	20.4
221	96	Wilson (C)	176	...	3.9	3.0	27.9
189	66	Wimpey G	136	-4	...	5.1	52.3
51	26	YRM	26	...	4.0	...	2.9

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
533	343	ADT	505	+12	...	...	-
248	193	Adam & Harvey	223	...	11.0	6.6	3.5
127	55	Air London	73	...	...	6.4	9.0
65	34	African Lakes	39	...	2.0	6.8	7.8
152	91	Auto Sec	139	-1	4.9	4.7	11.3
208	80	BET Ord	101	-4	...	8.6	14.8
100	41	BNB Res	72	...	4.9	9.1	8.4
316	208	BFP	313	-2	6.9	2.9	17.7
295	173	Barbour Index	270	...	7.2	3.6	20.0
30½	13	Bousseal	15	-1	0.7	6.2	30.7
223	111	Brit Data Mgt	220	-3	...	2.4	18.3
14	9	Broadcastle	12	...	...	...	...
101	58	Brooks Service	58	...	4.0	...	18.5
142	72	CRT Gp	93	-2	2.4	3.5	10.6
447	262	Capita Group	447	...	5.4	1.6	25.7
36	16	Caskel Plc	34	...	0.5	2.0	12.9
270	35½	Chiltern Capital	52½	+½	...	...	...
38	22	Chrisie	28	...	...	...	...
260	160	Chubb Sec	251	-6	...	1.5	27.7
43	18	Comaco	26	+1	...	...	...
31	9½	Corp Services	9½	-½	...	...	...
121	48	Dart	68	-1	3.3	6.5	7.7
216	145	Davis Service	204	...	7.9	5.2	15.5
115	35	EW Facs	97	-3	...	5.9	7.2
57	5	Gardiner	19½	...	1.3	12.8	4.2
48	21	Gardner (DC)	30	...	...	...	...
246	103	Hays	244½	-1½	4.6	2.5	24.1
251	107	Hogg Robinsn	219	...	6.3	3.9	16.4
143½	43	Holmes Protectn	65	...	...	...	...
149	98	Hnch Whamp	140	+3	...	...	16.0
£110½	6837½	ISS B DKr	£109½	-62½	...	1.0	15.5
587	375	Inchcape	576	-2	12.5	2.9	24.5
773	561	Johnson Clean	772	-4	25.7	4.4	16.1
18½	2½	Lep	6½	-½	...	...	...
244	164	Mitie Gp	230	-3	2.7	1.6	18.8
1187	682	Manpower	1187	+31	...	...	...
44	32½	Michael Page	47½	...	1.8	5.5	12.1
250	86	Pennon?	250	...	...	1.1	63.3
5½	2	Prime People	2½	...	...	...	...
306	68	Proudfoot Alex	105	-1	19.5	24.8	2.2
453	355	RCO	422	...	12.8	4.5	14.1
183	117	REA	117	-1	4.0	4.6	...
51	48	Reed Executive	65	...	...	...	...
165	117	Reliance Sec	142	-2	...	4.2	14.3
13	4	Rentaminster	4 #	...	...	...	...
227	134	Rentokil	214	-5	1.6	1.1	31.4
245	180	Rolfe & Nolan	245	...	6.2	3.4	16.4
380	234	Salvesen (C)	377	-7	7.0	2.5	20.9
43	25	Scott Pickford	31	...	...	3.4	8.5
206	95	Securiguard	196	-3	9.4	6.6	-
12	1½	Select App	5½	...	...	...	...
768	555	Serco Gp	760	...	11.9	2.1	24.4
293	132	Sherwd Cmpo	255	...	...	3.1	6.9
157	82½	Sketchley	121	-1	3.0	3.3	14.7
360	270	Warner Howrd	345	...	5.9	2.3	19.5
81	41½	Welpac	42	...	0.6	1.9	...
27½	7½	Wills Gp	20	-2½	...	0.7	25.5

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
246	162	Allied Colloids	242	-1	3.9	2.1	19.2
699	413	Amersham	690	+2	12.5	2.4	25.6
31½	5½	Anglo Utd	5½	...	0.8	...	...
9500	7762½	BASF DM	9500	+75	...	8.3	...
260	201	BTP	254	-1	8.8	4.6	18.6
£116½	4050	Bayer DM50	£116½	+121½	...	4.8	...
248	126	Blagden	143	-3	9.5	...	...
158	115	Brent Chems	150	-1	7.3	6.5	20.9
530	418	Br Bio-Tech	522	...	...	...	...
95	13	Caird Gp	25	-1	2.5	13.8	6.3
179	112	Canning (W)	151	...	7.2	6.4	12.1
616	371	Courtaulds	582	+2	13.0	3.0	15.8
270½	142	Croda	261	-2	7.5	3.8	19.8
211	152	Ellis & Everard	193 †	...	7.0	4.9	17.6
16½	7	Euro Colour	16	...	0.6	5.4	...
135	43	Erode	135	+1	3.5	3.5	-
281	171	Halstead (J)	281	...	...	2.8	15.0
227	158	Hickson	222	+1	7.8	4.7	14.1
£111½	7537½	Hoechst	£111½	+25	...	7.1	...
1410	575	ICI	1171	-4	55.0	6.3	28.2
660	454	Laporte	657	+2	18.9	3.8	17.7
328	138	Leigh	217	-4	7.8	4.8	17.7
290	11	MTM	17	-½	1.8	...	3.4
1650	1100	Norsk Hydro	1650	+75	...	2.0	...
403	360	Paterson Zoch	403	+3	11.4	3.8	17.4
395	355	-do- 'A'	371	...	11.4	4.1	16.0
301	251	Plysu	284	-7	6.0	2.8	19.1
306	130	Porvair	205	...	...	2.1	21.3
17	4½	Smllffe Speak	12½	...	...	...	...
475	378	Wardle Storeys	454	-4	16.0	4.7	18.2
430	270	Wnthme R	430	...	16.3	5.1	18.9
400	252	Yorks Chem	396	-4	...	2.4	20.7
281	214	Yule Catto	291	...	5.4	2.6	17.1

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
382	62	Alexon	81	-1	...	4.9	4.4
109	25	Amber Day	44	...	3.1	9.4	12.1
306	190	Argos Plc	272	-3	6.4	3.1	18.0
99	57	Ashley (Laura)	79	-2	0.1	0.2	...
305	180	Asprey	298	...	...	2.2	24.2
340	180	Austin Reed	198	...	6.0	...	57.6
159	112	Beattie (J) 'A'	150	...	5.7	5.1	14.3
144	74	Bentalls	106	-2	3.8	4.8	59.8
266	56	Beaverware?	246	-9	...	0.7	33.9
114	22	Blacks Leis	27	...	3.3	...	5.6
371	133	Body Shop	142	-3	1.6	1.5	16.4
17½	3	Brown & Jacksn	12½	...	...	...	...
361	260	Brown (N)	358	-3	6.0	2.2	22.2
80½	29	Burton	73 †	...	3.7	...	...
320	130	Cantors	138	...	...	2.6	18.3
358	245	Church	305	...	12.5	5.5	25.1
131	58	Clinton Cards	123	+2	3.7	4.1	...
231	151	Coats Viyella	222	-3	7.0	4.2	25.4
163	77	Colourvision	90 †	+1	...	...	15.2
404	300	Courts Furnish	400 †	...	5.0	1.7	20.2
252	100	Crown Eyes	115	...	...	7.0	5.3
111	65	Dairy Farm Intl	98	-3	...	...	15.9
57	27½	Dewhirst (D)	56½	-½	0.7	1.7	18.7
286	179	Dixons Grp	216	-4	6.0	3.7	25.4
495	355	Dunhill	376	...	7.7	2.7	13.0
33	13	ERA Gp	19	...	...	...	...
780	480	Elys (Wimbldn)	485	...	16.0	4.4	10.8
99	36½	Essex Furn	98	...	...	3.7	19.6
258	199	Etam	213	...	6.6	4.1	19.0
519	340	Fine Art Dev	518	...	11.0	2.8	19.9
80	26	Fired Earth Tiles	43	-2	4.0	...	31.4
500	438	Forminster	498	...	12.5	3.4	10.4
38	5	French Conn	37	...	...	...	...
75	21	Gabbicci	33	+1	...	8.1	6.6
69	39	Gent SR	50	...	2.0	5.3	14.7
41	18	Goldsmiths Gp	39	...	1.8	...	...
2530	1800	GUS	2525	...	40.0	2.1	20.0
1728	1319	-do- 'A'	1603	-23	40.0	3.4	12.7
75	30	Hampden Grp	38	...	...	7.0	5.4
283	123	Hartstone	249	-6	4.8	2.6	15.2
25	16½	Helene Plc	23½	...	3.0	11.4	10.3
40	15	Heritage	35	...	...	...	...
56	25	Honeysuckle	39	...	...	3.4	6.5
168	130	Hse of Lerose	143	...	10.3	9.6	21.7
195	40	Jacques Vert	64 †	...	2.0	...	...
598	414	Kingfisher	536	-5	13.0	3.3	15.8
73	54½	Leslie Wise Gp	66	...	4.0	8.1	11.3
675	405	Liberty	663	...	7.2	1.4	45.1
373	162	Lloyds Chem	258	-5	5.5	2.5	11.3
152	90	MFI	134 †	-3	...	3.7	17.9
348	208	Marks Spencer	334	-8	7.1	2.8	20.3
484	319	Menzies (John)	485	+1	10.0	2.8	15.9
140	110	Moss Bros	137	...	5.0	4.9	26.4
155½	57	Next	143½	-2½	0.7	0.7	28.4
85	15	Oliver (G)	18	...	1.0	...	...
222	110	Oriflame Intl	220	...	...	5.5	14.3
143	49	Pentos	54	-1	2.7	6.8	6.4
278	202	QS Hldgs	270	...	4.7	2.3	20.9
29	7	Ratners Group	16	-½	2.4	20.0	...
35	10	Rhino Grp	29	-2½	...	...	...
180	110	Sherwood Gp	159	...	...	1.9	15.3
113	54	Sears	102	-1	...	4.6	28.0
523	357	Smith WH 'A'	420	-6	13.4	4.3	14.6
29	13	Specialeyes	17	...	...	...	...
219	97	Storehouse	194	-11	5.0	3.4	...
256	153	T & S Stores	162	-8	5.5	4.0	11.9
95	27	Tie Rack	93	...	0.5	0.7	...
190	132	Time Products	189	...	7.5	5.3	18.5
96	47	Usher (Frank)	82	-1	...	8.1	8.0
38	23	Viral	29	...	...	...	77.3
68	38	Wensum	57	...	...	...	6.6
104	53	Wickes	96	-4	...	...	...
70	26	Wkd of Leather	56	...	...	...	65.9
205	102½	Wyevale	163	...	...	3.0	18.1
7	2½	Xtra-vision	2½	...	...	...	2.7

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
103	45	AB Elect	66	...	...	...	...
197	128	ACT Group	176	-3	4.5	3.4	17.5
233	195	Acala	231	...	...	3.3	19.5
162½	6	Acorn Comp	115	-31	...	...	...
425	299	Admiral	425	+5	4.8	1.5	19.2
133	64	Alba	116	...	4.7	5.5	15.1
75	7	Alphameric	30½	...	...	...	...
44	20	Amstrad	24	...	0.4	2.2	...
141	53	App Holo	128	...	...	...	...
22	12	Arlen	15	-1	...	...	...
48	12	Astec	45	...	...	...	...
292	218	Beales Hunter	269 †	...	9.2	4.6	14.2
21	1½	Bennett & Foum	5½	...	...	...	...
374	207	BICC	354	-5	19.2	7.3	20.6
575	314	Blick	562	...	9.2	2.2	21.6
4575	1150	Borland	1300	-50	...	...	...
290	180	Bowthorpe	276	-7	6.0	2.9	18.0
430½	305	BT	415	-1½	14.4	4.6	15.1
325½	212	BT New	310	-1½	14.4	4.6	15.1
9	5	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	9½	-½	0.1	1.5	...
228	80	Burnfield	128	-2	...	0.0	18.4
731	480	Cable Wireless	721	+4	13.2	2.5	22.3
14½	4½	Chloride	13½	...	...	...	...
300	205	CML Micro	246	...	...	2.4	16.5
116	62	Compr People	85	...	5.4	...	11.0
16	1	Cranbrook	1½	+½	...	...	...
151	90½	Cray Elect	148	-2	...	0.5	12.1
506	331	Delta	451	...	14.0	4.1	17.8
287	148	Denmans Ele	285	...	...	2.8	-
607	375	Domino	601	-3	7.2	1.6	-
66	43	Dowding Mills	64	...	2.5	5.2	21.0
1015	750	Drucks	963	...	...	1.3	23.5
792	233	Electrocmpnts	374	-6	7.0	2.5	20.2
545	286	El Data Pr	480	...	5.1	1.4	13.1
75	28	Electron House	71	-2	2.3	4.5	21.3
25½	7½	Emess	16	-3	1.0	...	...
550	292	Eurotherm	549 †	+2	9.0	1.9	-
122	51	FKI	120	...	2.3	2.6	23.2
367	227	Farnell Elect	344	+4	5.8	2.2	18.7
40	18	Feedback	35	...	...	...	...
13½	3½	Ferranti	12½	...	...	...	...
125	30	First Tech	125	-2	...	...	...
95	71	Forward Gp	95	...	...	3.5	11.4
28½	10	Forward Tech	18½	...	...	...	...
302	180	GEC	292	-3	9.6	4.4	15.5
227	102	Graseby	194	-3	10.9	8.6	14.7
57	38	Hilclare	39	...	...	1.7	12.7
455	395	Hoskins Gp	453 †	...	2.4	0.7	-
135	65	INSTEM	85	...	...	6.7	5.3
342	190	Jones Stroud	341	...	8.0	3.2	14.7
21	8	Kembrey	8	...	0.3	6.3	3.1
319	47	Kewill Sys	74	...	...	...	3.7
132	92	Kode	131	...	...	4.1	17.3
33	8	Laser-Scan	33	+2	...	...	...
173	49½	LDMS	172	+1	...	...	...
315	240	Lec Refrig	293	...	14.5	6.6	22.4
179	125	Life Sciences	178	-1	3.3	2.5	19.7
232	130	Logica	189	-1	3.6	2.6	27.1
55	45	LPA Inds	48 †	...	...	9.8	13.5
587	371	Macro 4	577	...	...	2.9	21.5
613	305	Memtec-Swe?	595	-1	...	2.0	19.4
212	159	Microfilm Rep	204	-1	4.3	2.8	19.5
2943	1453	Micro Focus	2878	-12	...	...	32.0
226	130	Microgen	226	+1	7.2	4.3	-
35	13	Microvitec	27½	-1½	...	...	...
408	201	Misys	496 †	...	6.1	1.6	22.6
147	40	Mitel	141	-6	...	...	...
138	78	MMT Comp	138	...	...	3.4	17.5
92	25	Molynx	25	...	4.0	21.3	2.4
373	202	MTL Inst	240	...	...	1.9	14.9
165	82	Muirhead Elect?	163	-2	3.0	2.5	20.0
143	71	Murray Electr	141	-1	1.8	1.8	-
5912½	3962½	NYNEX	5912½	...	...	...	...
188	115	Neotronics	183	-1	2.6	1.9	23.6
63	32	Newmark (L)	45	...	...	...	...
90	33	Norbain	90	...	...	1.5	13.5
50	20	Northamber	35	+4	0.5	1.9	...
17½	9½	Oceonics	10	...	...	...	6.5
254	165	Oxford Inst	222	...	4.3	2.6	14.9
127	46	P-E Internt'l	56	-2	6.2	...	...
68	16	P & P	44	+5	1.4	4.3	-
68	42	Peek	68	...	3.4	6.7	20.1
190	85	Pegasus	155	-14	...	6.0	-
9200	7000	Philips Fn 4%	9000	...	...	6.4	...
1187½	625	-do- Lmp nv	900	...	...	...	...
440	310	Pifco	440	+3	7.7	2.3	37.6
418	280	-do- 'A' Voting	418	+3	7.7	2.5	35.7
95	48	Plasmec	94	...	...	3.5	12.1
104	63	Pressac	99	-1	2.4	3.2	19.3
220	65	Psion	106	-3	...	3.0	...
11	2	Ptarmigan	10	...	...	...	...
190	129	Racal Elect	185	-3	1.5	1.1	21.0
46	26	Radamec	46	...	0.5	1.4	27.0
64	25	Radius	56	-1	...	6.4	41.7
119	62	Real Time	66	...	...	6.1	6.0
28	10	Riva	21	...	...	...	...
544	328	Sage Gp	538	-4	9.0	2.2	17.2
66	44	Scantronic	63	...	2.9	6.3	19.9
142	92	Scholes Grp	138	...	5.0	4.8	27.1
340	179	Sema Gp	284	-1	2.6	1.2	24.4
45	21	Silverminco?	38	-1	...	7.6	...
50	29	Soundtracks	41 †	...	...	7.2	-
2012½	1275	TDK	2012½	+37½	...	1.4	21.2
8	3	TDS Circuits	5	...	...	...	...
127	30	Telemetrix	101	-12	0.6	0.8	35.2
888	633	THORN EMI	865	...	30.1	4.6	22.3
110	88	Thorpe FW	100	-1	2.5	3.3	10.3
95	33	Total Systems	95	...	2.2	3.2	17.0
403	190	Tunstall	400	-1	6.0	2.0	17.9
236	123	Unitech	197	...	5.8	4.0	34.1
24½	6	Verity	9½	...	...	...	...
27	13	Vistec	25½	...	...	1.3	22.6
434	285	Vodafone	390	-5	...	2.0	19.1
460	260	Volex	436	...	...	5.4	21.4
17	10	Western Selectn	15	...	...	...	...
287	153	Wholesale Ftgs	234	...	11.7	6.8	22.0

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
444	273	East Midlands	424	-1	17.1	5.4	8.2
439	266	Eastern Elect	432	+1	16.7	5.2	10.7
263	143	Hydro-Elect	247	+1½	10.1	4.3	11.1
465	288	London Elect	438	-4	16.8	5.1	8.4
513	324	Manweb	494	-2	18.2	4.9	7.1
480	287	Midlands Elec	462	-5	17.2	5.0	9.7
492	295	Northern Elec	487	+1	18.5	5.1	7.2
494	298	Norweb	474	-4	17.7	5.0	8.9
247	142	Scottish Power	234	-2	10.1	4.6	10.9
475	297	Seeboard	471	-1	17.2	4.9	8.5
539	313	Sth Wales	503	-2	19.4	5.1	8.0
478	293	Sth Western	467	-1	17.4	5.0	8.4
457	270	Southern Elec	438	...	16.6	5.1	8.7
511	331	Yorkshire Elec	493	+1	17.7	4.8	9.1
310½	188	National Powr	295	-4	9.1	4.1	9.7
312	196	PowerGen	290½	-6½	9.2	4.2	9.2

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
58	28	Aitken Hume	55	...	0.5	...	35.1
65	37½	BWD	62	...	...	6.5	8.7
124	23	Baltic Plc	49	-1	4.3	...	4.3
453	299	Caledonia	442	-3	14.4	4.3	17.0
1950	1050	Camellia	1450	...	37.0	2.5	12.2
290	233	Candover	255	...	9.5	5.0	21.1
91	48	Flextech	87	-3	...	...	8.6
197	103	Govett	192	-4	...	7.2	5.6
135	97	Ivory Sime	132	-1	...	6.3	14.0
6½	3½	IJT	4	...	...	...	...
165	7½	Lightship	12 #	...	...	...	0.6
168	110	Lon Fortaing?	168	...	...	6.1	14.6
84	14	Manakin	76	...	...	...	...
7½	1½	Nat Home Loan	5½	-½	...	...	...
47	24	Newmarket	46	...	...	...	...
360	170	Rathbone Brs	253	...	...	2.6	17.9
19½	9½	Rutland Tst	18½	...	0.8	5.8	10.5
330	120	S & U	304	...	...	3.6	10.0
59	34	Singer & Fried	56	...	2.5	6.0	12.3
938	575	Sothebys	938	...	...	4.4	...
93	73	STP Capital	92	-1	3.0	4.3	16.6

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1775	1043½	Amer Express	1775 †	+43½	...	...	...
233	149	Electra	223	-2	6.7	4.0	30.4
973	535	Henderson Ad	955	-15	41.0	5.7	21.0
100	50	Invesco MIM	93	...	...	4.3	13.6
222	121	Jardine Strat	183	+3	...	4.0	8.2
186	100½	MAI	176	-3	6.0	4.5	12.8
469	244	MAM	447	-12	11.5	3.4	17.8
795	460	M & G	748	-6	20.0	3.6	19.9
147	81	Smith New Ct	144	-3	4.5	4.2	5.7
98	57	Sterling Tst	97 #	...	...	...	8.5
78	35	Trio Hldgs	70	-1	...	5.7	...

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
515	362	AB Food	462	-13	14.0	4.0	10.6
65½	21½	ASDA Group	59½	-1½	...	3.6	19.3
208	75	Acatos & Hutch	208	+1	6.5	4.2	11.8
83	31	Albert Fisher	66	-6	3.7	7.6	11.0
432	273	Argyll	361	-13	9.7	3.6	14.2
51	11	Ashley Group	23	-1	0.7	4.3	...
147	103	Assoc Fisheries	139	-3	7.0	6.7	25.7
190	143	Banks (S C)	185	...	8.2	6.0	9.1
345	200	Barr (AG)	345	...	6.5	2.5	-
117	74	Bensons Crsp	78	...	...	4.9	8.3
137½	50	Berisford Intl	120	...	...	...	...
490	312	Booker	415	-9	21.7	7.0	12.7
44	28	Borthwick	39½	...	1.1	4.0	25.5
474	334	Brake Bros	440	-1	5.7	1.7	18.4
51	31	Budgen	39	...	...	...	13.3
499	412	Cadbury-Schw	461	-4	12.5	3.6	17.0
107	64	Carrs Milling	85	-4	3.9	6.1	17.0
229	105	Clifford Fd 'A'	220	+2	11.5	7.0	10.4
186	140	Cranswick	186	...	...	5.4	13.7
38	8	Cullens	16	-½	0.5	4.2	8.6
435	275	Dalepak	280	-3	6.0	2.9	12.6
491	352	Dalgety	476	-3	19.5	5.5	15.8
54	27	Daniels S	33	...	0.2	1.0	36.1
132½	92½	Everest	122	...	...	3.8	12.6
295	234	Farepak	290 †	...	...	2.3	20.6
16	3	Farringford	9½	...	...	...	...
92	53	Finlay (James)	80	-1	4.1	6.2	16.7
95	68	Fyffes	91	...	...	1.7	12.3
440	249	Geest	396	...	7.9	2.7	15.0
12	5	Global	8	...	...	8.3	7.3
49	34	Grand Central	43	...	1.1	3.6	...
180	81	Hazlewood Fds	168	-4	6.1	4.8	10.2
200	68	Hillsdown	144	-4	8.8	8.1	8.6
61	27	Hunter Saphir	43	...	2.5	...	...
690	412	Iceland Frozen	666	-12	8.5	1.7	17.8
142	103	JLI Group	126	...	4.5	4.8	18.1
827	514	Kwik Save	796	-2	16.0	2.7	16.6
289½	169	Low (Wm)	254	-4	8.4	4.4	12.3
74	29	Matthews (B)	52	-3	4.5	...	11.0
33	9	Merchant Retail	15½	...	1.1	10.0	37.0
177	83½	Morrison (W)	156	-4	...	0.6	34.4
515	318	Nichols (JN)	513	...	12.3	3.2	14.6
317½	219	Nthn Foods	261	-5	...	4.0	14.4
48	11	Nrthmbra Fns	17	+1	...	...	7.1
193	132	Nurdin Peack	172	-4	5.5	4.3	11.7
226	78½	Park Foods	223 †	...	3.2	1.9	26.7
155	45	Perkins Food	87	...	4.3	6.6	7.6
301	130	RHM	275	-5	...	6.7	14.0
3½	1½	Regina Hlth	1½	...	...	...	...
584	337	Sainsbury J	529	-19	8.7	2.2	19.7
61	35	Sentry Farms	35	...	...	3.8	8.2
340	175	Sims Food	225	...	11.2	6.7	12.2
443	285	Tate & Lyle	409	-3	12.0	3.9	15.1
296	194½	Tesco	234	-9½	6.3	3.6	11.1
210	152	Thorntons	202	-1	3.6	2.4	19.3
163	83	Treats	150	-1	...	3.3	16.8
368	192	Unigate	331	+4	15.3	6.2	11.8
440	222	Utd Biscuits	362	-11	15.3	5.6	12.6
25	12	Usborne	22	...	0.4	2.4	13.5
357	205	Watson & Phil	333	...	13.3	5.3	17.4

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
23	16	Abrdn Stk Hse	16	...	...	...	...
89	52	City Centre Rest	84	-1	1.4	2.3	23.5
202	112	Forte	190	+2	9.9	7.0	...
240	94	Friendly Hotels	182	+16	5.5	4.0	14.6
12	5	Harmony Leis	8	...	...	...	...
114	92½	Jurys Hotel	94½	-2½	...	6.5	11.1
267	126	Ladbroke	200	-6	11.1	7.4	16.5
70	37½	Mandarin Orntl	70	+2	...	4.9	18.4
92	26	Queens Moat	51	+1	2.8	7.5	6.8
118	51½	-do- 7½% cnpr	95½	+½	7.5	10.5	...
2½	½	Regal Hotels	2	...	...	...	...
99½	16	Resort Hotels	48 †	-1	3.4	9.6	9.4
750	420	Savoy Hotel 'A'	718	...	7.0	1.3	...
46	23	Stakis	42 †	-2	...	1.4	-

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
222	135	AAF Inds	222	+13	...	4.5	11.7
616	460	AAH	549	-1	16.3	4.0	17.4
203	122	AIM	160 †	-2	6.5	5.4	9.0
136	76	APV	125	-5	5.4	5.8	22.6
165	50	ASW	133	...	9.0	...	25.2
147	86	Adwest	143	-2	7.0	6.5	20.3
33	5	Aerospace Eng	12	...	1.0	...	7.2
466	253	Airsprung	407	...	7.5	2.1	13.0
118	38	Alexdra W	117	-1	3.6	4.1	63.3
22	11½	Allied Radio	11½	...	...	...	...
460	358	Alumasc	460	...	11.0	3.2	14.0
62	9	Alvis	28	...	1.0	4.8	5.8
415	308	Amber Ind	415	...	17.0	5.5	11.1
33	13	Amberley Gp	20	...	...	6.7	...
160	125	Andrews Sykes	145	...	4.4	4.0	...
813	503	Anglo-Lagasta?	810	-3	...	2.3	19.8
50½	2½	Armour	47	-1	1.4	4.3	13.7
168	123	Ash & Lacy	160	-1	6.4	5.3	13.2
3½	1½	Ass Br Eng	3	...	0.0	2.2	...
555	300	Avon Rubber	555	+2	16.5	4.0	-
195	105	Assoc Nursg	195	...	...	...	7.5
860	445	Atlas Equip	665	+5	...	4.2	13.7
68	35	Ayrshire Metal	46	...	...	2.8	...
173	107	BBA	159½	-9½	7.5	6.3	20.5
53	24	BLP Group	28	...	...	...	...
417	49	BM Gp	59	+1	5.0	11.3	2.5
774	583	BOC	736	-13	23.2	4.2	16.1
76	51½	BSG	72	...	3.2	5.9	19.5
422	296	BSS Group	412	...	...	5.6	16.5
574	381	BTR	558½	-4½	16.5	4.0	19.6
211	115	BWI	211	+3	6.7	4.2	23.3
70	26½	Babcock	33½	-½	3.1	...	7.0
7½	3½	Bailey (CH)	6½	...	...	...	...
270	193	Baird (Wm)	264	-1	8.9	4.5	17.0
1037½	560	Barlow Rand	725 †	+50	...	5.2	3.7
45	7	Barren (H)	7 #	...	2.0	...	16.2
62	37	Baynes (Charles)	59	...	1.3	3.1	18.8
35	10	Beauford	12	...	1.8	...	...
18	5	Beckenham	8	...	...	8.3	...
31	10	Bedford (W)	20	...	...	...	...
25½	13	Benson Group	25½	...	0.1	0.5	23.0
660	449	Bespak	659	...	9.0	1.8	30.5
181	109	Bibby (J)	170	...	9.7	10.6	7.2
184	84	Billam (J)	181	-1	4.2	3.2	8.3
55	28	Bilston Battersea	31	...	...	...	18.4
7¾	3½	Bluecland?	7½	-½	0.8	...	...
42	20	Black Arrow	42	...	2.1	6.7	10.0
1½	½	Black & Edgtn	1	...	...	...	0.1
180	103	Black (Peter)	173	-7	2.9	2.3	17.7
146	32	Bluebird Toys	145	...	...	...	...
539	361	Bodycote	523	-3	9.2	2.4	18.4
571	398	Boots	490	-12	12.4	3.4	18.4
84	40	Booth Inds	57	...	3.2	7.5	5.9
508	312½	Bowater	485	-8	...	3.0	22.1
1682	905	Bowater Inc	1682 †	+32	...	...	...
229	126	Bowmore Intl	227	-2	...	2.0	21.9
20	13	Bramway	14	-1	0.5	5.5	18.1
274	186	Brammer	267	...	13.0	6.5	18.4
33	11	Bridgend Gp	14½	...	1.2	...	6.5
103	34	Brisdon?	90	...	4.0	...	...
82	38	Bridgon-Gndry	59	...	4.1	9.3	11.1
40	23	Brierley Inv	30	...	...	8.1	9.6
543	298	Br Bldg & Eng	298	...	...	...	...
47	38	Br Bloodstock	42	...	...	...	...
475	348	Br Polythene	462	...	9.0	2.6	14.1
86	43½	Br Steel	75	-2	...	1.8	71.4
120	86	Br Syphon	120	...	3.0	3.3	33.6
15	9	Br Thornton	13½	...	...	2.5	...
294	212	Br Vita	266	-1	...	3.5	17.5
13	5½	Britton Grp	11½	-1	...	...	...
668	429	Broken Hill	668	+22	...	2.3	31.2
128½	67	Bromsgrve Ind	104	...	4.0	5.1	14.3
15	3	Brooke Tool	7	-½	0.2	...	...
83	38	Brown & Tawse	53	...	4.7	...	...
174	63	Bullough	116	-2	6.0	7.2	-
37	13	Business Tech	28	...	...	...	28.9
35	12	CI Group	22	...	2.0	12.4	9.0
66	14	Campbell & Arm	24	...	2.0	...	...
30	2	Cannon St	12	...	3.3	...	...
238	161	Cape	229	...	10.5	6.1	14.6
202	130	Carclo Eng	202	...	7.8	5.2	17.0
2413	1675	Carnaud Ml	2413	+18	...	3.7	7.5
80	55	Cassidy Bros	71	...	...	4.5	7.9
195	118	Castings	161	...	4.0	3.4	11.5
140	90	Chamberlin Hill	115	...	6.0	7.0	6.9
707	467	Charter Cons	656	-28	21.5	4.4	15.7
270	176	Chemring	265 †	-5	...	4.1	16.0
120	75	Chieftain Gp	75	-8	...	8.7	8.3
39	18	Chillington	29	...	0.5	2.3	...
170	90	Christies Int	154	-1	3.3	...	...
53	33	Chrysalis?	49 †	+1	2.5	6.8	...
140	80	Clayton Son	88	...	3.0	4.5	...
7	¼	Co Designers	7 #	...	0.2	...	...
400	255	Cohen (A)	375	...	10.0	...	...
247	188	Community H	210	-2	6.5	4.1	13.1
236	126	Concentric	232	-4	...	3.2	18.6
335	88	Cook (Wm)	169	-1	10.0	...	11.3
213	103	Cookson	206	-4	6.0	3.9	28.7
60	35	Copymore	45	...	...	8.0	8.8
240	176	Crowl Pkr 'A'	216	...	5.7	3.5	16.3
178	118	Cosalt	166	...	10.7	8.6	25.3
250	180	Creighton Nt	192	-3	...	4.9	13.9
30	20	CrestaCare	28	...	0.7	3.5	18.1
3456½	1456½	Daltn?	3456½	+100	...	...	...
560	168	Danka Bs Sys	549	+1	3.7	0.9	16.9
11	5	Davies (DY)	7	...	...	...	...
707	474	De La Rue	700	-7	15.0	2.9	21.4
23	10	Dinkie Heel	20	...	0.9	6.3	9.5
444	263	Diploma	444	+4	9.7	2.9	23.1
88	43	Dobson Park	61	-1	5.7	12.6	11.0
104	90	Dyson (J&J)	97 †	-1	5.0	6.9	13.9
66	54	-do- 'A'	64 †	-1	5.0	10.4	9.2
18	8	EFG	18	...	...	...	...
430	355	EIS	409	...	11.7	3.8	15.2
29	9½	ETT Gp	9 #	...	...	...	...
26	16	Elbief	26	...	...	...	...
57	28	Eleco	28	-2	3.3	...	16.5
2200	1550	Electrolux 'B'	2100	+71½	...	2.8	-
480	45	Elliott (B)	55	...	...	...	...
603	330	Eng China Cl	455	-6	20.0	5.9	15.7
1975	900	Ericsson 'B'	1975	+212½	...	1.7	-
91	56	Erskine Hse	68	...	6.6	13.0	7.1
101	29	Eurocopy	39	...	1.6	5.5	-
158	29	Expamet	68	-5	10.3	...	8.1
570	302	Fairey Group	568	-2	9.0	2.1	18.8
108	61	Fenner	93	-2	4.2	6.0	17.5
49	18	Ferraris Group	43	...	...	3.1	9.8
1½	½	Ferrumet	1	...	...	...	...
51	19	Ferrum	28	...	2.5	11.9	7.6
81	33	File Indmar	33	...	4.9	...	4.4
403	143	Fisons	236	-1	8.7	4.9	17.2
61	28	Fitzwilton	33	...	...	15.3	...
255	200	Fogarty	255	...	...	...	...
56	39	Folkes Group nv	43	...	2.3	7.4	8.7
73	42	French (Thomas)	58 †	...	3.6	8.3	...
995	288	Frost Group	965	-5	2.0	0.5	36.4
115	63	GEI Int	82	-3	7.3	11.8	16.9
475	281	GKN	458	-11	20.5	6.0	29.3
93	40	GR Hldgs	51	...	...	5.4	...
130	84	Garton Eng	94	...	7.0	...	...
162	93	Genetner?	152	-2	8.2	7.5	6.3
58	21	Glevec?	32	...	...	...	25.2
943	632	Glaxo	653	-14	17.0	3.5	19.8
27½	14	Glenchewton	23	...	...	...	...
282	183	Glynwed	261	-5	11.6	6.0	25.7
97	63	Goode Durrant	86	-1	5.4	8.4	18.2
199	79	Grampian Hd	175	-3	5.5	4.1	14.9
379	192	Granada	369	-6	7.7	2.8	19.6
310	245	Great Shrs?	310	...	...	4.3	15.4
125	75	Green (Ernst)	82	...	...	11.4	11.3
11	6	Greenacre	10	+½	...	3.3	10.7
20	6	Guardian Grp	8	...	...	...	...
125½	23	Haden MacLn	30½	-1½	8.0	...	5.8
60	43	Hadleigh Inds	54	...	...	...	...
169	97	Hall Eng	143	...	8.6	8.1	12.8
12	3	Halls Homes	3 #	...	...	...	...
253	148	Halma	253	...	2.2	1.2	31.3
55	29	Hampson Ind	38	-1	2.3	...	10.3
265½	184½	Hanson	237½	-2½	11.0	5.7	13.1
241	138	Harris (Philip)	240	...	6.2	3.5	16.7
170	104	Harrison Crsfld	167	-1	9.0	7.2	28.8
99	32	Havelock Euro	42	...	1.5	...	...
4½	1	Hawthorn Les	4	...	...	...	...
41	17	Hay (Norman)	26	...	1.1	...	...
28	15	Headway	21	...	0.7	4.4	11.1
437	211	Hepworth	331	-11	14.8	6.0	13.2
172	116	Hewitt (J)	171	...	2.5	1.9	13.2
283	28	High-Point?	28	...	1.3	6.2	...
147	89	Hill & Smith	125	-1	6.0	6.6	-
10	3	Hobson	9	-1	...	...	...
100	69	Holders Tech	94	...	...	8.7	12.6
80	24	Hopkinsons	32	-1	3.7	...	9.3
232	149	Hornby	149	...	...	8.1	11.7
33	6½	Hospital Crp	13½	...	...	7.9	3.7
72½	32	Howden	61	-3	2.0	4.4	8.9
233	149	Hunting	233	+13	10.0	5.7	18.1
950	285	Hunsigh Tech	900	-13	...	0.7	33.2
306	210	IMI	279	-5	10.0	4.8	19.3
95	49	ISA Intl	95	...	1.3	1.9	18.3
305	127	Intercare Gp	184	...	...	1.9	...
266	175	Isotron	253	+3	3.9	2.1	27.3
498	259	Jardine Math	399	+8	...	2.8	11.5
537	317	Johnson Matth	473	-19	9.6	2.7	19.6
73	44½	Johnson & FB	57	...	3.0	7.0	17.6
207	117	Johnston	121	...	0.0	...	57.9
62	14	Jones Shipman	24	-1½	...	...	...
35	20½	Jourdan (T)	20½	...	1.5	9.8	...
49	26	Kalamazoo	30	...	...	...	24.7
136½	73	Kalon	136	-½	3.2	3.1	22.0
458	253	Kelsey Ind	288	-2	13.0	6.0	-
550	450	Kenshaw (A)	545	...	27.0	6.8	27.3
108	44	Kleen-E-Ze	60	...	...	...	...
73	30	LGW	73	...	...	2.1	25.4
343	229	Laird	302	-1	...	4.5	14.6
136	65	Lex (Arthur)	130 †	-1	5.9	6.1	55.2
138	86	Lilleshall	128	...	4.0	4.2	13.6
123	71	Lincat	123	...	...	5.5	17.5
9½	3	Lincoln Hse	9	...	...	...	...
128	61	Linread	117	...	3.5	...	16.5
193	130	Linton Park	185	...	13.0	9.4	32.4
36	10½	Lionheart	13½	...	0.3	3.0	14.0
19½	10	Locker (T) A	19½	...	1.0	6.8	61.4
316	157½	Lon Intl	235	...	9.4	5.4	16.0
180	57	Lonrho	75	+½	...	7.1	...
314	218	Low & Bonar	306	-1	9.1	4.0	16.8
323	200	MB-Caradon	305	-7	8.5	3.7	23.9
159	108½	-do- pf	151½	-3½	7.2	6.4	...
54	13	ML Hldgs	20	...	...	...	15.7
39	19	MS Intl	34	...	2.5	9.8	47.5
48	31	MY Holdings	46	...	...	2.8	14.6
263	171	Macfarlane	263	...	4.2	2.1	24.9
400	220	McKechnie	400	...	14.7	4.9	20.9
119	72	McLeod Russel	101	...	6.0	7.9	12.3
12½	6½	Maddox	9½	-½	...	...	...
93	55	Magnolia	68	...	3.4	...	47.6
98	66	Mang Bronze	76	...	1.0	1.8	...
74½	15	Marling	26½	...	0.3	...	...
137	87	Mayborn	137	...	...	4.1	11.7
41½	29	Mayflower	41	...	...	1.3	20.3
301	150	Medeva	230	...	1.5	1.0	20.8
108	90	Meggitt	98	-2	3.8	4.9	14.6
123	90	Metair	114	...	...	4.1	15.0
137	88	Metsec?	76	...	...	0.7	...
58	27	Midsummer	57	+1	...	7.0	9.3
22½	14	Mining & Allied	17	...	0.5	3.9	...
410	295	Molins	410	...	12.7	4.1	10.9
345	229	Morgan Crble	328	-3	12.6	5.1	16.0
145	79	Morris Ashby	139	-1	...	4.6	11.0
31	14	Neepsend	30	...	1.5	...	...
75	34	Nestor-BNA	47	...	3.1	8.9	7.7
131	68	Nobo Gp	129	...	3.5	3.6	15.8
164	62	Norcros	139	...	7.0	6.7	23.8
81	26	Novo Group	38	...	...	1.1	...
485	310	Nu-Swift	325	...	...	8.2	9.0
53	31	Office Elec Mac	49	...	0.1	0.3	...
49	10	OMI Intl	34 †	-3	1.7	6.9	...
155	135	PCT	137	...	...	0.8	12.4
51	47	Pacer Systems	47	...	...	7.8	...
147	94	Pentland	130	-4	2.2	2.4	18.1
380	260	Photo-Me	380 †	...	4.4	1.5	19.4
168	67	Pilkington	107	+½	6.0	7.5	38.9
34	19	Platon	26	+5	...	...	...
79	39	Plantsbrook	73	-1	...	5.5	10.7
147	93	Polypipe	137	-2	1.9	1.9	20.5
504	305	Portals	503	...	13.8	3.7	16.3
65	18	Porter Chadbrn	29	-1	2.5	11.8	7.0
14	1½	Portls Gp	7½	...	...	...	...
363	204	Powerscreen	359	-1	6.0	2.2	20.3
21	14½	Prospect Inds	19	...	0.7	5.3	9.5
40	16½	RPS Group	43	-½	...	...	14.3
100	30	Radiant Metal	80	...	...	...	...
100	31	Ransco Oil	100	+2	...	2.7	71.4
772	444	Rank Org	711	-7	31.0	6.0	18.9
39	6	Ransomes	29	-2	...	...	...
709	523	Reckitt Colm	617	-6	15.1	3.3	14.6
100	40	Record	65	...	3.6	7.4	12.5
9½	2½	Reece	2½	...	...	...	8.7
169	105	Relyon	142	...	4.9	4.6	18.5
313	248	Renishaw	280	-2	6.5	3.1	21.4
68	44	Renold	58	...	1.0	2.3	...
1438	982	Reuters	1382	-15	...	2.1	23.0
37	22½	Rexmore	29	...	1.7	8.0	7.1
102	58	Ricardo Intl	102	+1	5.7	7.5	26.2
81	50	Richard (Leics)	59	...	4.4	9.9	5.9
69	47	Richardson West	65	...	2.9	5.9	15.6
130	97	Ropner	125	-3	8.2	8.8	8.9
122	95	-do- 'A'	117	-5	8.2	9.4	8.4
47½	22	Ross Gp	34	...	0.4	1.8	18.7
426	258	Rotork	426	...	10.0	3.1	19.7
135	85	Rubicon	125	...	...	1.6	...
81	57	Russell (A)	60	-1	2.1	4.8	31.7
21	14	SEP Indl	19	-½	0.6	4.6	-
1200	612½	SKF 'B'	662½	-12½	...	6.0	...
222	107	Sanderson Elec	204	...	9.0	4.7	10.8
56	32	Savage	51	...	...	0.7	67.2
44	29	Savile Grdn (J)	44	...	2.2	6.7	17.2
242	158	Scapa	239	-3	5.3	3.0	19.5
245	188	Scholl	233	-2	6.0	3.4	16.7
17	2½	Scot Heritable	6	...	...	...	...
990	648	Securicor	975	...	2.6	0.4	-
666	469	-do- 'A'	645	-1	2.6	0.5	-
565	367	Security Serv	545	...	5.0	1.3	-
91	58½	Senior Eng	88	...	3.1	4.6	14.6
361	257½	Seton Health	360	...	...	1.9	23.1
72	45	Sheldon Jones	45	...	...	...	...
146	83	Shiloh	96	...	2.7	3.8	26.0
361	223	Sidlaw	328	-7	10.0	4.1	15.3
500	255½	Siebe	485	-9	...	2.5	20.4
283	188	Silentnight	274	-9	8.0	3.9	15.2
121	68	Simon Darby?	119	+1	...	3.7	14.9
304	69	Simon Eng	139	-3	15.7	15.1	18.1
242	196	Sinclair (Wm)	256	...	7.0	3.6	16.5
53	27	Six Hundred	46	...	2.5	7.2	...
171	127	Smith & Neph	151½	-2	4.4	3.9	19.0
566	390½	Smithkline	449½	-15½	7.7	2.3	18.2
503	353	Smithkline Uts?	393	-15	...	2.5	15.8
394	255	Smiths Ind	371	-4	11.2	4.0	15.1
140	76	Stim Bus?	138	...	3.3	3.3	13.0
340	265	Spandex?	309	...	...	2.6	15.7
330	230	Spear (JW)	300	...	10.0	4.4	9.3
348	231	Spirax-Sarco	343	-1	9.0	3.5	20.5
181	83½	Spring Ram	143	...	0.2	0.3	19.8
48	21	Star Comp	47 #	...	0.5	1.6	22.0
270	158	Staveley	241½	-½	8.2	4.5	15.8
147	102	Sterling Ind	147	...	5.6	5.1	18.4
14½	9	Stonehill	11 #	...	...	...	...
145	73	Suter	139	+2	8.8	8.4	12.4
319	160	Swire Pacfc 'A'	312	+7	...	2.7	20.7
19	5	Sycamore	6	...	...	...	...
300	232	Sylone	255	...	9.4	4.9	11.7
198	98	T & N	179	-5	10.8	8.1	33.8
372	251	TI	315	-8	10.2	4.4	16.9
23	10	TLS Range?	16	...	...	4.2	...
265	167	TT Group	253	-1	...	3.2	18.4
249	170	Takare	245	-2	1.5	0.8	34.3
742	405	Takeda Chem	712½	+14½	...	0.6	19.4
44½	19	Tex Hldgs	28	...	...	...	...
91	53	Tinsley (B)	78	...	...	8.9	9.1
174	85	Titan?	174	+1	...	2.7	15.1
371	195	Tomkins	349	-3	...	3.4	17.5
165	39	Trafalgar H	86½	-½	6.0	9.2	5.6
16½	36	-do- 'A'	84	-1	...	...	...
514½	266½	Transfer Tech	435	...	...	4.0	12.0
175	133	Triplex Lloyd	171	-2	7.0	5.7	15.0
283	165	UniChem	242	...	5.0	2.8	17.9
320	250	Unicare?	310	...	...	6.6	11.6
24	8½	Unigroup	13½	...	...	...	...
1157	866	Unilever	1148	-7	18.9	2.2	17.7
7337½	5375	Unilever (NV)	7337½	+84½	...	2.8	11.8
575	265	VSEL	573	-2	25.0	5.8	6.6
15	2½	Vesson	8½	-1	...	...	...
188	80	Vickers	124	-2	6.0	...	28.1
409	250	Victaulic?	355	...	...	2.8	16.9
330	231	Vinten	330	+1	6.6	2.7	17.5
502	240	Vosper Thorny	494	-7	13.1	3.5	11.9
70	36	WSP Hldgs	41	...	2.9	9.7	7.1
468	340	Wagon Ind	441	-14	...	5.1	17.1
78	45	Walker Greenbk	75	...	3.1	5.5	17.9
230	110	Wassal	227	-2	...	1.5	27.5
34	15	Watford Wdgwd	29	...	...	...	...
675	435	Weir	655	-4	10.5	2.1	19.0
1774	777	Wellcome	895	+10	13.0	1.9	24.7
33	27½	Wellman?	23½	...	2.2	...	9.8
463	350	Wharman?	483	...	8.7	2.4	17.4
330	201	Whessoe	309 †	+11	...	3.5	12.0
34	4	Wheway	7½	-½	1.0	17.8	...
143	15	Whitecroft	39	-1	4.0	...	4.1
12	3	Whitley?	6½	-½	...	...	...
357	44	Wilkes (James)	55	...	10.0	...	2.9
379	222	Williams Hldg	342	-2	12.3	4.8	17.3
23½	8½	Wilshaw	23½	...	0.4	2.3	19.5
595	287	Wolseley	555	-19	12.5	3.0	21.2
150	100	Wood (Arthur)	125	...	4.1	4.4	13.5
80	36	Wyko	36 †	...	2.8	...	20.6
70	38	Young (H)	48	...	3.0	8.3	17.6

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1957½	1025	Alex & Alex	1987½	+50	...	3.5	...
4177	2250	Am Gen	4143½	+18½	...	3.7	...
66	27	Amber (A)	32	...	4.4	18.3	15.5
168	83	Bradstock	145	...	5.1	4.8	17.4
1160	742	Britannic?	1138	...	29.5	3.5	...
641	402	Com Union	598	-22	23.6	5.3	...
1380	900	Dom & Gen	1380	...	...	1.7	22.8
37	18	FAI	22	...	...	...	...
612	356	Gen Accident	595	-3	28.7	6.0	...
188	108	GRE	170	-3	7.0	...	...
477	212	Heath C E	343	...	16.0	6.2	20.2
188	104	Hogg Gp	168	-2	8.1	6.5	10.2
208	102	JIB Group	185	...	...	5.4	13.6
479	287	Legal & Gen	445	-11	18.8	5.6	...
1036	557	Liberty Life	999	+8	...	4.4	24.3
465	295	Lloyds Abbey	443	-7	17.3	5.2	14.8
262	160	Lloyd Thomp	257	+1	5.6	2.9	18.9
318	203	Londn & Man	318	...	13.5	5.7	24.5
362	234	Lowndes Lmb	355	-1	12.6	4.7	14.1
6743½	3931½	Marsh McLn	6743½	+131½	...	2.8	...
154	93	Oriel	94	...	...	7.1	6.9
81	30	PWS	63	...	4.0	8.8	-
325	199	Prudential	309	-6	11.0	4.7	26.8
895	564	Refuge	889	...	29.0	4.3	39.8
294	118	Royal	269	-11	11.2	...	...
340	180	Sedgwick	179	-1	6.0	4.5	19.2
321	162	Steel Burrill	223	-13	13.2	7.9	14.2
232	53	Stange Hldgs	60 †	...	8.2	18.3	6.1
358	214	Sun Alliance	333	-9	14.2	5.7	...
61	20	Trade Indemnty	60	...	...	...	...
276	165	Transatlantic	275	...	...	5.8	19.2
565	305	Utd Friendly	565	...	12.3	2.9	28.7
274	144	Willis Corroon	191	-4	13.2	9.2	21.4
21	14	Windsor	17	...	...	...	13.4

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1689	1218	Alliance	1668	-19	43.0	3.4	38.5
256	152	Amer Trust	254	-½	4.8	2.5	53.8
333	229	Ang & O'seas	327	-4	6.4	2.6	49.0
136½	98½	BZW Conv	134	-½	7.8	7.8	19.7
150	104	Bankers	147½	-1	3.4	3.1	40.5
298	210	Baring Tribne	294	-2	6.2	2.8	47.3
172	116	Berry Starq	146	-2	2.0	1.8	49.3
106½	71½	Br Assets	104	-2	4.1	5.4	25.5
64½	46½	Br Empire Sec	63½	-1	0.8	1.9	64.5
17	8½	-do- Wnts	16	...	...	...	...
171	123	Br Inv	166	-4	4.5	3.6	41.7
1540	1200	City & Comm	1538 #	...	...	...	...
166	125	Contl Asset	160	-1	2.4	2.0	-
230	165	Derby Inc	169 †	-1	16.6	13.1	-
235	140	-do- Cap	230	...	...	...	...
109	65	Drayton Asia	108	...	0.7	0.9	...
96	59	-do- Blue Chip	69	...	8.4	16.0	7.4
57	26	-do- Eng Intl	56	-1	1.2	2.9	...
97	61	-do- Far East	97	+2	0.6	0.9	...
100	56	-do- Korea	98	...	...	...	...
628	473	Dunedin Inc G	618	-10	25.4	5.5	25.1
569	407	-do- Wwde	565	-3	9.5	2.2	58.2
278	203	Dundee & Lon	253	-1	12.0	6.3	23.3
61	36	EFM Inc Tst	47	-1	4.8	13.8	8.5
54	40½	-do- Div PT	52½	...	...	...	...
274	199	Edinburgh	265	-6	8.0	4.1	32.4
154	107	Electric Gen	153	-1	3.1	2.7	48.7
89	65	English Scot	88	...	...	...	...
241	186	European Asset	239	...	...	3.2	-
104	69	Finsbury 'A'	89	...	3.0	4.5	28.6
290	162	Fleming Amer	287	-2	0.7	0.3	-
411	294	-do- Claver	410	...	10.7	3.5	-
246	173	-do- Cont	246	+1	2.8	1.5	...
162	119	-do- Emrg	159	...	4.5	3.8	35.7
237	157	-do- F East	236	+1	1.5	0.8	...
286	198	-do- Fledg	285	...	3.0	1.4	...
116	81	-do- HI Inc	115	-1	5.8	6.7	19.6
164	100	-do- Japan	157	-5	0.3	0.3	...
271	193½	-do- Merc	264	-4	6.7	3.4	37.8
240	165	-do- O'seas	238	-1	4.0	2.3	50.5
234	150	Foreign & Col	224	...	...	2.0	66.2
190	144	-do- Eurotst	189	-1	1.2	0.9	...
101	71	-do- German	99	-1	0.4	0.5	...
214	134	-do- Pacific	214	+2	1.7	1.1	...
137½	79	-do- Smaller	135½	-1	...	1.8	68.8
205	121	GT Japan	171 †	-1	...	0.9	...
109	49	Gartl Cons Cap	92	-7	...	...	...
123½	45	-do- Inc	122	-1	...	10.2	11.3
145	63	Govett Am Smlr	142	-2	...	...	...
213	128	-do- Oriental	213	+2½	0.9	0.6	...
239	150	-do- Strategy	230	-5	6.7	3.9	31.7
368	265	Greenfriar	367	-1	6.3	2.3	-
28	½	Gresham House	7	-1	...	...	...
52½	31	Independent Inv	52½	+½	0.5	1.3	...
132	95	Inv Cap	130 †	-2	5.1	5.2	26.1
95	67	I&S UK Smlr	88	-1	2.0	3.0	21.0
177	128	Kleinwort Chrt	176	-1	5.0	3.9	-
198	134½	-do- O'seas	197	...	3.2	2.2	59.4
126	85	-do- Smlr	126	...	...	4.2	24.9
590	433	Law Debenture	575	-4	...	4.1	30.2
170	133½	Majedie	169	...	...	3.7	32.7
246	176	Merchants	240	-5	...	5.9	22.1
4925	2437½	Merrill Lynch	4787½	+75	...	...	...
439	296	Monks Inv Tst	436	-3	6.7	2.1	57.3
116	93	Mort Gren Inc	115	...	...	5.3	22.8
27	13	Do Warrants	22	...	...	...	...
46	33	Murray Euro	44	-1	0.4	1.4	...
11	4½	Do Wts	10½	-3	...	4.6	29.6
315	223	Murray Income	311	-3	...	5.1	36.3
300	215	-do- Intl	297	+1	4.0	1.2	62.5
290	215	-do- Small	290	...	...	14.2	9.7
100	99	-do- S/C Inc	102	-1	...	...	...
86	54	-do- S/C Cap	77	...	...	4.7	...
3050	2250	-do- S/C Uts	3050	-½	...	...	...
147½	117½	-do- S/C DF	146½	...	10.3	5.3	20.3
258	189	-do- Vent	257	+½	0.2	0.5	...
66	44½	New Frontier	66	...	6.7	11.4	11.1
105	61	Nwthrog Inc	79	...	2.5	1.3	79.3
283	187	O'seas Inv Tst	278	+4	1.0	0.4	...
327	173	Pacific Assets	327	+6	...	...	...
232	80	Do Warrants	232	...	...	2.7	48.1
8200	5700	Personal Assets	8050	...	1.1	1.4	50.3
114	82	RIT Cap Partr	111	...	...	10.2	...
121	98	River & Merc	120	...	...	3.5	...
379	273	Robeco	379	...	...	2.2	...
368	268	Rolinco	368	-1	7.5	4.2	-
259	194	St Andrew Inv	238	-1½	...	4.1	32.3
147½	108	Scot American	140	...	...	...	...
815	429	Scott Asian	800	-1½	1.4	2.7	49.5
71½	49	-do- Eastern	70	-3	4.6	3.1	-
200	147	Scottish	196	-3	3.9	2.7	45.5
196½	135	-do- Mrge	193½	+½	...	3.1	57.0
77½	48	-do- Value	77½	...	...	3.3	39.5
1493	1066	Second Allnce	1480	-13	36.5	3.3	27.5
83½	61	Secs Tst of Scot	82½	-1	3.2	5.3	...
125	79½	Selective Asset	124	...	1.2	1.3	-
30	9½	Sphere Inv	17½	-1	...	23.6	5.0
132	76	TR Far East	132	+2	4.5	4.6	28.7
137	97½	TR City Of Lon	134	-2	4.7	4.7	38.1
129½	70	TR Pacific	129½	+½	...	0.3	...
27	14½	TR Property	21½	-½	1.4	...	63.2
68	18	TR Tech Inv	68	+1	1.7	3.4	33.7
167	96	TR Smlr Cos	165 †	-1	3.7	3.0	48.3
310	226	Temple Bar	305	-5	...	5.7	21.4
90	51	Thrmtn Asian E	80	+2	0.5	0.8	...
66	30	Throgmorton	63	-1½	2.5	4.9	26.5
410	268	Throg Dual Cp	400	-10	...	...	...
187	137	USDC Invest	187	...	4.2	3.0	35.6
89	58½	Value Inc Tst	88	-1	...	5.5	23.2
627	483	Whitbread Inv	579	-7	15.0	3.5	38.4
195	139	Witan	193 †	-2	5.6	3.9	-

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
69½	2	Airbreak Leis	3½ #	...	...	...	0.7
337	172	Airtours	281	+1	7.2	3.4	10.0
90	18	Ald Leis	47	-1	...	...	13.4
243	145	Anglia TV	200	...	...	5.2	18.3
217	135	Barr & W 'A'	204	...	10.0	6.5	10.2
1185	795	Boosey Hwks	1195	+10	20.0	2.3	19.0
113	70	Border TV	102 †	...	...	3.5	13.3
16½	4	Brent Walker	9½	-½	...	...	...
15	2½	Buckinghm Int	6½	...	2.1	...	1.5
448	300	Campari	271	-3	...	5.4	7.4
226	126	Capital Radio	154	...	5.2	3.6	22.6
818	468	Carlton Comm	750	-19	...	3.1	21.6
223	130	Castle Comm	172	...	...	0.6	19.4
1825	1050	Central TV	1812	-1	30.5	2.2	23.3
88	40	Chrysalis	73	...	...	...	...
604	405	Compass Gp	571	-1	12.3	2.4	16.0
380	273	Eurocamp	337	...	9.7	3.9	-
1691	673	Euro Disney	913 †	+28	...	1.3	...
10	1	Euro Leisure	6	...	...	...	11.7
36	11	Ex-Lands	20	...	...	...	...
10½	1	Expedier	1½	...	...	...	...
448	110	Fairline Boats	385	-3	10.5	5.0	...
355	239	First Leisure	336	+1	6.1	2.5	-
410	250	GWR Gp	410	+6	...	2.5	-
181	91	Grampian	181	...	5.5	4.1	12.7
8	5	Greenwich Comm	6	...	...	...	...
92	13	HTV Group	33	+1	3.7	...	...
208	30	Hi-Tec Sports	49	-1	5.5	...	3.1
18½	2½	Kunick	6	...	...	...	...
328	220	LWT CP	328	+3	5.9	2.4	16.0
377	260	Man Utd	372	...	18.0	6.5	12.8
123	44½	Owners Abrd	115	...	3.5	4.1	-
41	19	The Pelican Gp	40½	-½	...	3.3	13.9
96	50	Prism Leisure	96 †	...	...	3.8	10.9
61	15	Quadrant Grp	19	...	4.0	...	2.9
319	274	Radio Clyde	318	...	...	3.0	24.9
177	125	Ramsdens (H)	148	+8	...	4.2	-
493	302½	Scot TV	493	+2	...	2.2	31.8
66	40	Southern Radio	57	...	0.7	1.9	23.7
191	125	Stanley Leisure	180	...	...	3.1	15.2
13	4	Sunleigh	9½	...	...	...	...
195	135	Sunset & Vine	140	...	3.5	3.3	15.1
53	27	TSW	29 #	...	...	22.7	3.7
44	3½	TVS	42	-1	...	...	3.5
420	136	Tanjong	420	...	...	...	70.1
200	134	Thames TV	178	...	7.5	5.6	5.1
118	75	Tottenhm Hot	88	...	...	...	4.3
75	38	Trans World	66	-2	...	...	...
319	154	Ulster TV	319	+1	7.5	3.1	22.2
25	16	Wembley	21	...	1.8	...	...
19½	4½	Whitegate	15½	...	...	...	...
191½	110	Yorkshire TV	131 †	...	12.0	12.2	-
136	90	Zetters Gp	103 †	-1	8.0	10.4	10.4

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
4112½	1800	Am Gold	2325	+62½	...	9.5	10.5
2237½	1000	Ang Am Coal	1250	+50	...	8.2	5.3
2225	1012½	Ang Am	1518½	+43½	...	5.0	9.5
14	7½	Anglo Pac Res	13½	-½	...	...	...
110	33	Blyvoors	58	+6	...	11.8	2.8
25	11	Bracken	25	...	...	...	1.2
566	208	Buffels	280	-10	...	16.3	6.0
4½	1½	Butte	1½	...	...	...	...
651	437	CRA	622	+24	...	2.9	-
38	9	Cliff Res	15	...	1.0	6.9	22.4
1662½	581½	De Beers	1087½	+34½	...	...	8.9
125	37½	Deelkraal	47	...	...	14.3	2.3
46	7	Doornfontein	10½	-1½	...	...	...
759	388	Driefontein	490	+30	...	7.5	8.1
375	120	Durban	157	-2	...	...	...
121	39	E Rand Gold	57	...	...	20.4	1.7
154	62	E Dagga	70	+1	...	...	5.1
168	54	E Rand Prop	132	...	...	...	...
490	117	Elandsrand	157	+2	...	8.7	-
535	272	FS Cons	435	+22	...	12.3	4.4
33	7	FS Dev	8	-2	...	...	...
1491	606	GFSA	855	+30	...	3.2	12.1
222	121	Gencor	149	+5	...	6.6	11.6
42½	29½	GM Kalgoorli	40½	+1	...	3.4	9.9
11	2	Greenwich R 'A'	5½	...	...	...	...
89	44	Grootvlei	58	...	...	20.4	-
368	78	Harmony	147	+4	...	...	...
281½	87	Hartes?	122	+8	...	...	4.2
11	5	Inoco	10	...	...	...	...
820	486	Impala Plat	515	-11	...	7.5	10.4
8	2½	Kenmare Res	8	...	...	...	...
795	292	Kinross	426	...	...	13.3	4.2
636	293	Kloof	420	+20	...	4.7	6.4
60	21½	Leslie	37	...	...	12.7	3.3
71	12	Loraine	14	-2	...	...	...
128	90½	MIM	113½	+4	...	2.0	52.0
955	559	Minorco	925	+1	...	4.1	10.9
111	66	Nth Brkn Hill	102	+3	...	4.9	-
1301	598	Orange Free	960	+45	...	14.6	7.6
688	460	RTZ	673	-6	19.5	3.9	20.3
1287½	375	Rand Mines	550 †	...	...	11.8	2.3
230	75	Rand Min Prp	95	...	...	19.6	4.1
334	136	Randfontein	200	+9	...	9.6	2.7
221	106	Renison	135	+2	...	3.3	13.1
1312½	812½	Rustnbrg	900	-46½	...	5.7	12.5
410	183	St Helena	282	+5	...	10.2	-
1287½	475	Southvaal	600	...	...	10.8	-
50	17½	Stilfontein	38	...	...	19.9	-
183	43	Unisel	80	...	...	4.2	7.1
4000	1500	Vaal Reefs	2400	+150	...	10.6	-
324	154	Welkom	245	+15	...	14.8	6.8
90½	26	Western Areas	36	+1	...	...	...
2375	987½	Western Deep	875	+34½	...	8.1	-
225	164	Wstrn Mining	204	+10	...	2.4	...
630	255	Winkels	393	+3	...	2.8	2.9
71	16	Zambia Copper	70	...	...	...	...
45	18	Zandpan	20	-3	...	...	5.6

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
400	228	Abbey Panels	233	...	0.1	0.1	18.1
125	90	Airflow Stream	120	...	...	...	...
123	56	Appleyard	99	-3	7.8	10.5	73.1
217	130	Bletchley Mtr	217	...	8.2	7.3	12.2
145	115	Bostrom	132	...	6.0	6.1	35.9
379	100	Br Aerospace	261	-6	25.0	...	5.6
378	303	Caffyns	323	-5	11.5	4.7	43.0
139	95	Central Mtr	108	...	...	5.1	-
48	15½	Cook (DC)	20	...	...	...	...
196	99	Cowie (T)	193	-3	4.8	3.4	14.5
133	75	Dag Motors	95	...	5.7	8.1	11.2
132	85	Davenpt Vern	132	+1	4.0	4.1	-
264	130	ERF	230	-2	4.0	...	...
283	163	FR Group	273	-2	6.6	3.3	13.0
3525	1500	Ford Motor	3525	+87½	...	...	...
2743½	1681½	General Mtr	2743½	+118½	...	1.8	...
53	35	Gowrings	45	...	2.0	5.9	...
96	43	Henlys	93	...	3.0	4.3	...
780	465	Honda Motor	786	+13	...	0.7	...
31	10	Jacks (Wm)	21	...	...	...	...
95	49	Jessups	78	-2	4.5	7.7	...
225	68	Kwik-Fit	103	-5	3.3	4.3	10.2
336	175	Lex Service	322	-3	10.0	4.1	...
128	74	Lookers	109	...	6.2	7.9	-
153	77	Lucas	145	-4	7.0	6.4	...
258	169	Pendragon	248	...	6.0	3.2	22.2
175	103	Perry Gp	124	...	9.0	9.7	22.3
133	56	Quicks Group	133	...	3.0	3.0	24.5
176	89	Rolls-Royce	128	-4	7.2	7.6	24.2
160	99	Vardy (Reg)	141	-6	4.0	3.8	21.6
145	93	Westland	143	-2	4.2	4.0	12.6

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
125	73	Adscene	121	...	4.0	4.5	12.7
390	315	Black (A&C)	350	...	13.0	5.3	19.7
578	398	Blenheim Gp	570	+5	9.0	2.1	21.3
330	238	Bristol	294	...	11.3	5.3	21.6
8300	5900	Daily Mail	7925	-75	13.0	2.2	17.8
8300	5800	Daily Mail 'A'	7925	-75	13.0	2.2	17.8
301	193	Dorling Kind	300	-1	...	1.3	28.7
365	226½	EMAP	339	-1	...	2.9	22.1
983	533	Euromoney Pb	980	...	29.5	4.0	22.1
328	155	Haynes Pub	328	...	6.0	2.5	14.0
258	140	Headline	258	+2	10.0	1.7	26.5
183	105	Home Counts	125	...	8.2	8.8	23.6
6½	2	Intl Bus Comm	3½	...	...	...	...
14½	6½	Int Cm & Dama	6½	...	...	...	...
430	285	Independent	430	...	...	4.5	15.5
475	355	Johnstne Press	475	...	5.5	1.5	22.4
263	186	Metal Bulletn	263	...	7.4	3.8	21.2
125	49	Mirror Gp	108	-2	...	...	10.3
1426	507½	News Corp	1426	+84	...	0.3	24.0
764	258	News Intl	764	+14	3.9	0.7	13.2
459½	297	Pearson	361	-13	...	4.3	16.9
615	340	Portsmth Sund	612	-1	8.6	1.9	15.8
682	447	Reed Int	664	-9	16.0	3.2	22.0
126	61	Southnews	117	...	...	1.7	34.5
125	29	Sterling Pub	125	...	...	2.7	41.0
368	274	Telegraph	334	-6	...	3.8	14.0
815	565	Thomson Corp	765	+10	25.2	4.4	12.9
347	222	Trinity Intl	322	...	...	3.5	19.0
62	28	Unit Group	34	...	...	...	...
543	323	Utd Nwspaprs	540	-1	21.0	5.2	18.5

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
18	6	Aberdeen Pet	11½	+1½	...	...	11.5
23½	11½	Aran Energy	23½	+2½	...	...	...
68	23	Arcon Intl	41	...	...	...	...
53	22	Aus Oil & Gas	51	+1	...	...	...
290	20	Aviva Pet	47	-2	...	...	...
48	8	Beverley	12	-1	0.6	...	...
195	105	Br Borneo	168	...	7.1	5.6	18.5
295	233	British Gas	283½	-6½	...	6.5	13.1
304	182	Br Petroleum	271	+3½	...	5.2	54.2
4½	1	Bula Resources	1½	...	...	...	...
741	460	Burmah Castl	703	-13	24.0	4.6	16.1
75	21	Cairn Energy	47	+1	...	...	...
253	164	Calor Gp	255	+7	12.0	6.3	16.6
10	5	Caspen Oil	7½	...	...	...	...
80	20	Clyde Pet	47	...	1.2	...	...
16½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	11½	...	...	...	...
476	297	Enterprise	474	+9	15.7	4.4	33.7
103	25	Exp Co Louis	83	...	...	...	...
28½	14½	Fairhaven Intl	23½	+½	...	1.2	8.6
69	34	Goal Pet	61	+1	1.2	2.7	11.5
31	5	Gt Western Res	27	...	...	...	...
146	77	Hardy O & G	142	+4	1.0	0.9	44.6
6½	1½	ICA Drilling	2½	...	...	...	...
28½	7½	Kelt Energy	22	...	...	...	...
263	112	LASMO	170	+2	8.5	6.7	22.0
161	63	-do- Units	81	...	15.0	24.7	...
51	11	Mid Scot Res	19	...	...	...	...
42	27	Monument	42	+1	...	...	43.8
18½	5	New London	8	...	...	...	...
39½	17	Nth Sea Assets	26	...	0.7	3.8	6.8
37	23	Oil Search	30	+1	...	...	...
14	8	Petrac	13	...	...	...	...
102	57	Pict Pet	101	...	...	...	14.0
31	10	Premier	29½	+2	...	...	13.1
106	40	Presidio	75	...	...	8.4	...
430	308	Ranger	353	-15	...	1.4	...
5925	4162½	Royal Dtch Pt	5925	+84½	...	5.2	16.1
4312½	3025	Schlumberger	4187½	-46½	...	2.0	...
59	41	Scallield?	51	...	...	...	...
605	475	Shell	595	-1	20.9	3.7	25.6
206	160	Sunrise Eng Sv	202	+2	...	...	...
10	½	Teredo	10	-½	...	...	...
82	26	Triton Europe	43	...	...	...	10.0
172	131	Woodside	159	+6	...	23.[illegible]	...

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High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
265	107	API	262	...	7.5	3.8	22.0
290	133½	Arjo Wiggins	161	-12	8.5	...	13.1
443	365	Abbott Mead	443	...	8.4	2.5	22.2
3	¼	Acsis Group	1½	...	...	...	...
125	15	Aegis Gp	16	-3	5.8	...	3.4
212	105	Aspen Comms	212	...	...	3.2	20.0
13	7	BBB Design	8½	...	...	...	...
319	180	Bemrose	318	-1	11.7	4.9	16.2
60	33	Birkdale	36	...	0.2	1.1	10.3
136	80	Bunzl	129	-1	4.0	4.1	39.1
267	147	CIA Gp	254	...	...	1.0	17.5
51	...	City of Lon	49	...	...	9.1	10.3
206	135	Cropper (James)	174	...	3.0	2.3	19.8
41	6	Crown Comms	6 #	...	...	...	...
60	30	Delyn Pckging	59	...	1.4	3.1	11.2
149	70	Dolphin Pack	117	...	4.5	5.1	15.6
74½	42	Dudley Jenkins	44	...	...	...	11.1
15	9½	Elswick	13½	...	0.2	...	11.2
68	36	Fairway Group	46	-1	...	9.1	12.1
286	211	Ferguson Ind	275	-1	12.5	6.1	15.9
90	25	Filofax	89	...	...	0.6	31.1
48	6	Firth	17	-2	...	...	1.9
71	47	Gibbon Lyons	70	...	...	9.5	13.3
308	196	Gold Greenless	305	-3	8.3	3.7	23.1
53	27	Goodhead	27	...	0.5	2.5	...
160	32½	Huntsprint	78	...	...	...	...
180	138	Interurope	138	...	7.4	7.4	8.5
198	123	Jarvis Porter	195	...	4.4	3.0	23.3
50	13	Lopex	25	...	...	...	10.4
263	133	More O'Ferrall	219	-4	13.2	8.0	13.6
71	27	NMC Group	65	-2	1.2	...	12.8
86	58	Osborne & Little	71	...	4.3	8.2	9.1
180	132	Quarto	179	...	5.2	3.1	9.4
343	231	St Ives Gp	330	...	5.2	2.1	22.5
245	115	Saatchi	195	...	...	...	...
754	381	Sappi	459	+15	...	8.5	8.6
10½	1½	Senla	17	-2½	...	...	...
43	3	Shandwick	26½	-½	...	...	...
351	233	Smith David	327 †	-1	9.5	3.9	14.5
335	230	Smurfit (Jeff)	274	-1	...	0.5	24.[illegible]
263	171	Sun-Plns?	203	...	7.1	4.7	14.[illegible]
19½	10½	Taylor Nelson	19	...	...	...	11.4
65	37	VTR	43	...	...	10.5	12.[illegible]
115	31	WPP	70	-1	...	...	...
195	48	Wace	77	-2	8.2	14.3	8.5
221	159	Waddington (J)	215	-1	7.9	4.9	16.2
578	391	Warnough?	578	...	18.5	2.4	23.2
4	½	Waverley Cam	½ #	...	...	...	...
6½	1½	Westport	6½	...	...	...	...
39	12	Whitney Mck	16	...	...	...	22.4
75	51	Wood (SW)	67	-1	0.3	0.5	...

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3½	1½	Abaca Group	1½ #	...	...	...	...
86	28	Allied Lon	57	-1	3.5	8.3	10.2
70	55	Arcadian	61	+2	...	...	...
73	34	Asda?	64	...	2.0	4.2	23.[illegible]
141	64	Avonside	92	-1	...	8.4	7.4
2475	1887½	BCE	2462½	+12½	...	...	...
478	268	Bilton	437	...	18.0	5.5	18.8
46	23	Bourne End	24	...	1.0	5.6	...
168	108	Bradford	108	...	4.4	3.5	18.3
36	11	Bredero	19	...	...	...	1.8
275	110	Br Land	227	-1	6.3	3.7	28.6
188	108	Brixton	181	-2	8.1	6.0	13.8
59	44	Burford	46	...	0.9	2.8	24.0
125	88	Cap & Regnl	120	...	...	1.1	...
200	75	Cardiff Prop	120 †	...	2.4	2.7	...
433	103	Chesterfield	222	...	18.5	...	13.7
80	9	City Site Ests	21	...	1.4	...	...
40	8	Clarke Nickolls	16	...	0.3	...	3.8
32	8	Clayform	12	...	...	...	...
880	785	Daejan	870 †	+7	25.0	3.8	13.6
4½	½	Dares Estates	1½	...	...	...	...
76	30	Debenham Twsn	73 †	...	2.5	4.6	28.5
12	1	De Morgan	10	...	...	...	...
135	76	Dencora	90	...	5.5	8.1	...
540	265	Derwent Hldgs	325	...	8.6	3.5	39.3
250	170	Estates Agency	210	...	3.0	1.9	18.5
96	6	Estates Gen	18	...	3.7	...	...
143	100	Evans Of Leeds	133	...	4.1	4.2	12.7
31	11	Five Oaks	15	...	...	...	...
35	28	Fletcher King	33	...	1.0	4.0	21.9
345	186	Frogmore	343	-1	15.0	5.8	17.9
125	51	Grainger	104 †	...	5.2	6.7	...
182	84	Gr Portland	139	-6	10.0	9.6	13.8
114	40	Greycoat	17½	...	5.2	...	...
129	68	HK Land	113	+1	...	4.5	13.0
48	19	Hampro Cntyw	42	...	0.0	0.2	...
588	180	Hammerson	306	-1	10.0	4.4	10.3
503	165	-do- 'A'	289	-2	10.0	4.6	13.8
150	69	Helical Bar	147	-1	4.0	3.6	...
30	20	Hemingway	22	...	...	...	...
170	85	Herring Baker	87	...	7.0	10.7	...
225	133	Jermyn	150	-5	1.5	1.3	...
504	343	Land Sec	485	-1	21.7	6.0	14.7
83	62	Lon Merch Sec	81	...	3.8	6.3	12.9
3½	1½	Lon & Metro	2½	...	...	...	...
411	196	MEPC	374	-3	20.0	7.1	15.7
6½	3	McInerney A	6½	...	...	...	...
145	76	McKay Secs	100	+5	6.2	...	16.4
20	3	Markheath	6½	+½	0.5	...	...
133	8	Merivale Mre	22	-5	1.0	6.1	...
5	5	Merlin Intl	5 #	...	...	...	...
46	22	Moorfield Est	33	...	...	0.4	...
1075	560	Mountview	775	...	18.0	3.1	7.8
9	2½	Mowat?	7 #	...	...	...	...
137	101	Mucklow (A&J)	127	...	5.9	6.2	16.6
53	33	New Cavendish	50	...	...	...	26.8
117	31	Olive Hldgs	31	...	9.0	...	4.2
10	3½	Ossory Est	8	...	0.1	2.5	2.3
103	8	Power Corp	9	...	...	...	1.0
111	54	Prop Security	108	...	3.7	4.2	21.2
125½	14½	Property Trust	38	...	...	...	...
4½	½	Raglan	3	...	...	...	...
68	1½	Regalian	12	-½	1.5	16.7	2.4
10½	3½	Rosehaugh	7 #	...	...	...	...
175	125	Rowlinson Secs	125	...	1.3	1.4	26.6
25	12	St Modwen Prp	23	...	0.5	3.2	13.8
37	21	Savills	47	...	...	...	...
72	18	Scot Met	48	...	1.5	4.2	...
62	39	Shaftesbury	58	...	...	...	...
10	2	Shield	6½	-½	...	...	...
26	11	Sinclair Gldm	20	...	0.5	3.3	...
248	83	Slough Estates	185	-3	8.1	5.9	18.5
78	36	Southend Prop	61	-2	4.1	9.1	30.8
20½	2	Speyhawk	14	-½	...	...	...
53	9	Stanhope Prps	30	...	...	...	...
89	58	Town Centre	88	+2	3.1	4.7	17.2
61	35	Trafford Park	55	...	2.6	6.2	14.8
7	7	UK Land	33	-1	...	...	...
7	4	Union Square	4	...	...	...	...
217	119	Warner	196	...	10.5	7.4	-
245	185	Warnford	187	...	7.2	5.2	12.8
8	1	Waterglade	6½	-½	...	...	...
91	23	Wates	48	...	3.7	10.4	12.1
44	17	Wood John D	42	...	...	...	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
28	9	Automagic	13	...	...	...	...
101	42	Headlam	101	...	2.4	3.2	40.0
455	265	Lambert	455	+55	12.5	3.7	11.8
111	63	Pittard Garnar	98	-2	1.5	2.0	15.0
41	18	Strong & Fisher	22½	...	1.0	5.9	6.3
193	88	Stylo	130	-2	2.5	2.6	...

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
460	362	Allied Text	458	...	12.6	3.7	-
73	47	Beckman (A)	63	...	4.7	10.1	12.5
52	22	Bolton Gp	22	-1	...	...	11.2
162	138	Br Mohair	155	+4	8.5	7.3	12.2
118	30	Celestion	118	+1	1.2	1.4	...
41	15	Charnwell?	20	...	0.4	2.7	...
337	186½	Claremont Ga	315	...	...	1.6	22.6
574	364	Courtauld Text	564	...	13.0	3.1	16.6
249½	160	Dawson	236	-2	9.0	5.1	23.0
59	17	Drummond	30	...	1.5	...	7.7
80	17½	Dunkeld	33	...	...	...	...
73	60	Faupel	72	...	...	9.1	7.1
68	24	Foster (John)	33	...	0.5	2.2	...
142	84	Gaskell	85	...	8.5	...	...
186	99	Hicking Pntcst	178	-7	3.4	2.5	15.1
73	38	Jerome (S)	46	...	1.0	...	...
389	215	Lamont	289	-2	...	5.6	14.2
616	308	Leeds	605	-11	11.0	2.4	19.5
41	15	Lister	33	+3	0.1	0.4	...
122	81	Lyles (S)	110	...	4.9	5.9	12.5
94	53	Parkland 'A'	86	-5	2.0	3.0	...
95½	63	Readicut	91½	-3½	3.4	5.0	18.1
71	30	SEET	50	-1	...	...	...
91	67	Sirdar	84	-1	5.1	8.2	14.8
51	39	Stirling Gp	49	...	1.6	4.5	28.4
59	31	Stoddard	47	...	2.6	7.4	12.5
312	198	Tomkinsons	305	...	11.5	5.0	28.3
5½	3	West Trust	4½	...	...	7.8	...
356	160	Yorklyde	347	-3	9.7	3.8	16.2

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1010	608	BAT	976	-18	33.6	4.6	25.8
669	480	Rothmans 'B'	594	-18	10.2	2.3	13.6

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
440	211	Assoc Br Ports	383	...	8.0	2.8	...
816	531	BAA	770	-15	14.5	2.5	13.6
315	219	Br Airways	299	-1	10.1	4.5	8.0
182	45	Clarkson (H)	78	+1	8.0	...	3.5
101	11	Davies Newman	23 #	...	...	...	...
488	296	Eurotunnel Uts	460	-8	...	...	...
86	44	Fisher (James)	44	...	3.3	...	12.3
140	70	Graig	135	...	4.5	4.4	...
203	147	IoM Steam	160	...	...	6.3	7.7
39	22	Jacobs (JI)	31	...	1.9	8.2	18.5
53	41	Lon O'Seas Frts	41	...	1.2	4.1	2.5
1512½	1237½	Manchstr Sh	1325	...	4.5	0.5	-
311	190	Mersey Docks	282	...	6.0	2.8	18.6
210	168	Natl Express	204	...	...	4.7	15.4
290	216	NFC	267 †	-5	6.5	3.3	20.3
357	170	Ocean Group	279	-4	14.3	6.8	12.6
63	31	Ocean Wilson	48	...	...	7.4	10.7
594	296½	P & O Dfd	565	-7	30.5	7.2	19.5
156	97	P & O 5 1/2%	133	-2	...	5.5	...
522	267	Powell Duffryn	518	+1	22.6	5.8	20.7
138	95	Seacon	131	-2	...	5.5	...
50	27½	TIP Europe	28	...	1.4	6.7	6.8
87	24	TNT	37½	+4	...	...	...
745	495½	Tibbet & Britten	743	...	...	1.9	29.7
478	214	Tiphook	328	-8	17.3	7.0	6.5
307	208	TDG	290	-3	9.5	4.4	17.4

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
502½	308½	Anglian Water	495	...	19.3	5.2	8.0
591	336	Northumbrian	566	+4	20.5	4.8	5.9
513	323	North West	491	+3	19.6	5.3	8.6
487	298	Severn Trent	483	+3	19.3	5.3	7.0
497	301	Sthrn Water	492	+5	19.5	5.3	8.7
1500	670	Sth Staffs	1270	...	40.2	4.2	8.2
524	306	South West	518	+4	21.7	5.6	7.8
518	324	Thames Water	504	+1	19.2	5.1	9.5
554½	337	Welsh Water	552	+11	21.4	5.2	6.4
602	358½	Wessex Water	597 †	+7	...	4.4	8.1
547	336	Yorkshire W	538	+3	19.5	4.8	8.8

Source: Finstat

• USM. ¤ Price at suspension. † Ex dividend. ‡ Ex scrip. ¶ Ex rights issue. ‡ Ex all. ‖ Ex capital distribution. – Figures or report awaited. ... No significant data.

هكذا من الأصل

Significance of lies in a case

Regina v Sharp

Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Mr Justice Ward and Mr Justice May

[Reasons January 29]

Although, save in those cases where lies were relied upon as corroboration or as confirmation of identification evidence, it was not as a matter of law incumbent upon a judge to give directions as to the significance of lies told by the accused. Where such a direction was not given, the judge had to be *careful not* to suggest that dishonesty either to the police or in court was tantamount to establishing the element of dishonesty which had to be proved in the case.

The Court of Appeal so stated when giving reasons for allowing, on January 21, the appeal of Frank Sharp against his conviction on June 6, 1991 at Stoke on Trent Crown Court (Judge Allardice and a *jury) of obtaining* property by deception contrary to section 15(1) of the Theft Act 1968.

The defendant, a bankrupt, continued his business by forming a company with another trading under that person's name. To gain further investments the defendant approached a third person and obtained from him £10,000.

It was alleged by the Crown that he had obtained that money by deception by falsely representing that (i) he was the sole proprietor of the company (ii) he would sell a 40 per cent share in that business (iii) the business owned assets (iv) the value of the assets was £7,300 (v) the business had sales to the value of £6,600 a week.

Although he did not give evidence at the trial, he told the jury through his counsel that he had told lies to the police when he was interviewed by them in the presence of a solicitor.

Mr Simon Tonking, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the defendant; Mr Rex Tedd for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH, giving the judgment of the court, said that save in those cases where lies were relied upon as corroboration, *R v Lucas (Ruth)* ([1981] QB 720), or as confirmation of identification evidence, *R v Penman* ((1985) 82 Cr App R 44) and *R v Francis* ([1990] 1 WLR 1204), it was not as a matter of law incumbent upon a judge to give a direction as to the significance of lies told by the accused.

Such a direction was however commonly given and a specimen direction appeared in the *Judicial Studies Board Guidance*. The effect of such a direction was that the defendant had admitted that he had told lies to the police and the jury were entitled to ask themselves why he did so.

The mere fact that a defendant told lies should not be taken as evidence of his guilt: it depended on the motive for the lie. A defendant might lie for various reasons: for example, to protect someone else, to save himself embarrassment, out of panic or confusion, or other matters of that kind.

If the jury thought that there was, or might be some innocent explanation for the lies, then they should pay no attention to them. But if they were sure that the lies were relevant to the allegation made against him but were not *prompted by any innocent motive* of that kind, then those lies would be evidence going in proof of his guilt.

Mr Tonking did not submit that such a direction was necessary in every case, or indeed in every case in which dishonesty was an ingredient of the offence, and their Lordships were certainly not prepared to hold that it was.

What he did submit was that if such a direction was not given, the judge had to be careful not to suggest that dishonesty, either to the police or in court, was tantamount to establishing the element of dishonesty which had to be proved in the case. He submitted that the judge failed to make that clear.

Their Lordships thought there was some force in those submissions. It would undoubtedly have been better if the judge had explained to the jury the significance of lies told at the interview.

A judge was undoubtedly faced with a difficulty when an accused, who did not give evidence at the trial, had no previous conviction but had been dishonest in connection with the case.

It seemed to their Lordships that in those circumstances a judge should give the usual direction about the accused's failure to give evidence. He should then deal with the effect of the statements to the police, if necessary and he considered it desirable, pointing out the distinction between the weight to be attached to admissions as opposed to exculpatory statments.

He should then give the standard direction as to the effect of good character relating to credibility, pointing out that in the instant case it was only the exculpatory statements to the police that had to be considered so far as his credibility was concerned. In an appropriate case he should also give the propensity direction.

He should then refer to the lies admittedly made in interview, saying that such lies might, in the *jury's view, affect his credibility in* relation to the rest of the interview, but explain to them in the terms of the standard direction that lies might be said for different and innocent reasons.

When a judge intervened in the course of examination or particularly cross-examination a number of problems could arise, depending on the frequency and manner of the interruptions.

The judge might be in danger of seeming to enter the arena in the sense that he might appear partial to one side or the other. That might arise from the hostile tone of the questioning or implied criticism of counsel who was conducting the examination or cross-examination: or if the judge was impressed by a witness, perhaps suggesting excuses or explanation for a witnesses' conduct which was open to attack by counsel for the opposite party.

Quite apart from that, frequent interruptions might so disrupt the thread of cross-examination that counsel's task might be seriously hampered.

In a case of any complexity, cross-examination of the principal witnesses was something that called for careful preparation and planning. It was the most important part of the advocate's art, because a competent cross-examination was designed to weaken or destroy the opponent's case and to gain support for the client's case.

But it was easier said than done. If the judge intervened at a crucial point where the witness was being constrained to make an important admission, it could have an adverse affect on the trial.

In general, when a cross-examination was being conducted by a competent counsel a judge should not intervene save to clarify matters he did not understand or he thought the jury might not understand. If he wished to ask questions about matters that had not been touched upon it was generally better to wait to the end *of the examination or cross-*examination.

That was no doubt a counsel of perfection and a judge should not be criticised for occasional transgression: still less could it be said in such cases that there was any irregularity in the conduct of the trial or that a verdict was unsafe or unsatisfactory.

But there might come a time, depending on the nature and frequency of the interruptions, that a reviewing court was of the opinion that defence counsel was so hampered in the way he properly wished to conduct the cross-examination that the judge's conduct amounted to a material irregularity.

Solicitors: CPS, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Initial outlay allowable for tax

Threlfall v Jones (Inspector of Taxes)
Gallagher v Same

Before Mr Justice Harman

[Judgment January 29]

The total amount of the payments made by a taxpayer in acquiring trading assets under the terms of a financing agreement that required a heavy outlay in the initial months was allowable expenditure in computing for tax purposes the taxpayer's trading loss for the year in which the payments were made.

Mr Justice Harman so held in the Chancery Division in allowing an appeal by way of case stated by the taxpayer, Mr Kevin Threlfall, from a determination of a special commissioner (Mr David Shirley) whereby he had rejected a claim made by the taxpayer under section 381 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 to carry back certain trading losses incurred in the year 1989-90 to be set against his taxable income for 1986-87.

An appeal by another taxpayer, Mr Geoffrey Gallagher, for the same year and on similar facts giving rise to identical issues and which was heard at the same time by the commissioner, was also allowed.

The taxpayer carried on trade hiring out narrow boats. During 1989 he entered into three commercial leasing agreements with a finance company to acquire three boats. Each agreement was in the same form.

One agreement, for the acquisition of the Golden Serenade, provided for a primary period of 24 months with an initial payment by the taxpayer of £14,562 and 17 primary rentals of £2,080 payable monthly and for one final monthly payment.

Thereafter the agreement provided for a secondary period of 21 years commencing in November 1991 during which the taxpayer was to pay an annual rental of £5.

The taxpayer's accounts for the relevant period, drawn up by accountants and not endorsed with any statement that they gave a true and fair view of the results of the taxpayer's trade, showed a loss of £64,586, most of which arose from leasing charges paid by him under the agreements. The taxpayer claimed that sum as a trading loss for 1989-90.

The tax inspector refused to allow the whole of the claim: by spreading the payment of the leasing charges evenly over the whole of the primary period he restricted the amount of the taxpayer's loss claim for the year to £27,983.

Mr G. R. Bretten, QC and Mr Robert Grierson for both taxpayers; Mr Launcelot Henderson for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE HARMAN said *that it was common ground that* the expenditure incurred by the taxpayer under the agreements was revenue expenditure properly incurred for the purposes of his trade. It was the Crown's case, however, that not the whole of the amount of the leasing charges shown in the taxpayer's accounts for the period was allowable in computing for tax purposes his trading losses.

In so submitting, the Crown relied on their expert evidence given before the commissioner by Mr George Miller, CA, the accountancy adviser to the Board of Inland Revenue. That evidence was that the taxpayer's accounts, drawn up on an earnings basis, gave a completely misleading picture of the trading results.

Mr Miller's preferred method of accounting for the taxpayer's expenditure was based on the revenue's Statement of Standard Accountancy Practice No 2, setting out the fundamental accounting concepts underlying the periodic financial accounts of business enterprises, and No 21, accounting for leases and hire purchase contracts.

Applying that method, apportioning the taxpayer's expenditure over the life of a boat and taking capital, interest and depreciation into account, in Mr Miller's opinion the taxpayer's allowable loss for 1989-90 would be £6,710.

No expert evidence had been called by the taxpayer. Mr Bretten argued that it was a fundamental principle that expenditure properly *incurred in any year and referable* to the trade was for tax purposes deductible in computing the profits of that year and that that principle applied notwithstanding the undisputed fact that the expenditure secured for the taxpayer a future benefit.

He relied, *inter alia*, on the decisions in *Vallambrosa Rubber Co Ltd v Farmer* (1910 SC 519; 5 TC 529) and *Duple Motor Bodies Ltd v IRC* ([1961] 1 WLR 739).

The speeches of their Lordships in *Duple* were, Mr Bretten said, all to one effect. As Lord Reid put it (at p753): "... you are entitled to include in expenditure for the year all business expenses in that year ... whether or not they can be attributed to the production of goods in that year. It matters not that certain expenditure may have proved abortive, or may have been spent solely with a view to production and profit in some future year..."

Because of the principle established by the House of Lords in *Duple*, unanimously and in clear words, actual expenditure properly incurred and referable to the trade was properly chargeable in the accounts for the year in which it fell due notwithstanding that prudent and proper principles of commercial accounting would draw up the accounts of the trading enterprise on a different basis and spread forward the actual expenditure incurred over future years so as to give a more balanced view of the nature of the success or failure of the trade.

The commissioner was wrong to restrict the taxpayer's claim as he had.

Solicitors: Herbert Wilkes, Birmingham: Solicitor, Inland Revenue.

Annual workers cannot be seasonal

Vale of White Horse District Council v Mirmalek-Sani and Another

Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Clarke

[Judgment January 29]

Justices erred in holding that workers involved in agricultural operations throughout the year were exempted from the need for a caravan site licence.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held, allowing the Vale of White Horse District Council's appeal by way of case stated against the dismissal by of Didcot Justices on September 25, 1991 of an information against Sayed Mohsen Mirmalek-Sani and Elaine Mirmalek-Sani of using land as a caravan site without a site licence, contrary to section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960.

Paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the 1960 Act provides: "A site licence shall not be required for the use as a caravan site of agricultural land for the accommodation during a particular season of ... persons employed in farming operations *on land in the same occupation.*"

Mr Neil St Clair Cameron for the council; the second respondent in person.

MR JUSTICE CLARKE said that the land on which the caravans were sited was owned by the respondents and comprised 28 acres on which they kept poultry and traded in free-range eggs.

The respondents had argued that paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to the 1960 Act exempted them from the necessity of a site licence.

The council had argued that the exemption did not apply to them because the phrase "a particular season" was intended for those engaged in seasonal work, for example, hop-picking.

If the words were to be construed so widely as to embrace a whole year they were rendered meaningless and would have been omitted altogether.

The justices had concluded that the exemption did apply in the case of poultry farming. Poultry farming was an operation which lasted throughout the year and therefore "a particular season" was construed to mean the whole year.

In his Lordship's judgment, as a matter of ordinary English, a season was less than a year. *The Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* defined season as "1. A period of the year ... 3. The time of year assigned to some particular operation of agriculture." His Lordship understood the word in the same way.

The purpose of the words in paragraph 7 was to dispense with the need for a site licence for temporary accommodation, for example, for hop-picking. Accommodation for poultry workers throughout the year could not be called accommodation for a particular season.

Lord Justice Kennedy agreed.

Solicitors: Mr G. K. Pollock, Abingdon.

District limit of hire licences

Dittah v Director of Public Prosecutions
Choudhry v Director of Public Prosecutions

Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Clarke

[Judgment January 29]

An operator of private hire vehicles who was licensed by one district could only operate in that district vehicles and drivers licensed by the same district.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved *judgment, dismissing appeals by* way of case stated by Allah Ditnah and Parvez Sardar Choudhry against their conviction by Mr Frederick Harchard, Birmingham Stipendiary Magistrate, on September 12, 1991 of offences of operating a private hire vehicle without the vehicle and the driver being licensed, contrary to section 46 of the Local Government (*Miscellaneous Provisions*) Act 1976.

Mr Rupert Massey for the appellants; Mr Timothy Raggatt for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that a private hire vehicle could not operate in a controlled district unless there were in existence three licences. There had to be an operator's licence, the vehicle had to be licensed and so had the driver.

Both appellants had operator's *licences issued by Birmingham* City Council. The vehicles and drivers had been licensed by an adjoining controlled authority, Solihull.

The magistrate had accepted that under the 1976 Act an operator who held an operator's licence issued in Birmingham could only operate in that controlled district vehicles and drivers *licensed in Birmingham.*

The prosecution's case was that if one licensing authority was responsible for issuing all three types of licence the conditions could be inter-related and effective steps could be taken to see that they were observed.

In his Lordship's judgment, the 1976 Act had to be read so as to require private hire operators licensed under section 55 to make use only of vehicles and drivers licensed by the council of the district by which the operators were licensed when operating in that controlled district.

Mr Justice Clarke agreed.

Solicitors: Evans Derry Rennie & Co, Birmingham; Crown Prosecution Service, Birmingham.

Acquiescence in delay not implied by offer

Draper v Ferrymasters Ltd and Others

Before Lord Justice Glidewell and Sir John Megaw

[Judgment February 4]

Where inordinate and inexcusable delay by a plaintiff's advisers caused more than minimal prejudice to a defendant, neither negotiations towards an offer of a settlement, nor a payment into court, would in itself amount to acquiescence on the part of the defendant or estop him from applying to have the plaintiff's *action struck out.*

The Court of Appeal so held when allowing the appeals of the defendants, Ferrymasters Ltd, T. W. Barter and R. A. Barter, trading as Clarence Paper Sales, and Nymolia AB, from the decision of Mr Justice Waller.

The judge had held on February 3, 1992 that, although there had been inordinate and inexcusable delay by advisers then acting for Colin Draper, which had caused more than minimal prejudice to the defendants, their conduct had amounted to acquiescence which had estopped them from applying to have the personal injuries action brought against them by Mr Draper dismissed for want of prosecution.

Mr Anton Lodge, QC and Miss Maria Davies for Mr Draper; Mr Quintin Tudor-Evans for Ferrymasters; Mr Roger Ter Haar, QC, for Clarence Paper Sales; Mr John Greenbourne for Nymolia.

LORD JUSTICE GLIDEWELL said that the conduct by the defendants, in offering facilities to the plaintiff and his advisers to watch a video which they believed to be relevant to demonstrate the extent of the plaintiff's injuries and in negotiating for settlement, did not amount to acquiescence which would have induced the plaintiff to further expense.

They were then not estopped from applying by summons to dismiss the action for want of prosecution arising from the delay caused by the plaintiff's former advisers.

An application made by the successful defendants for the costs of the appeal and for the costs of the action, now dismissed, with the costs of the action backdated to the judgment of Mr Justice Waller, although novel, seemed to be correct in principle and would accordingly be granted.

Solicitors: Alex Lauriston & Son, Middlesbrough; Berrymans, for Crutes Niman, Middlesbrough; Payne Hicks Beach; Cameron Markby Hewitt.

European Law Report — Luxembourg

Information was insufficient

Telemarsicabruzzo SpA and Others v Circostel and Others

Joined Cases C-320 to C-322/90

Before O. Due, President and Judges C. N. Kakouris, G. C. Rodriguez Iglesias, M. Zuleeg, J. L. Murray, G. F. Mancini, R. Joliet, F. A. Schockweiler, J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, F. Grévisse, M. Diez de Velasco, P. J. G. Kapteyn and D. A. O. Edward

Advocate General C. Gulmann

(Opinion October 6, 1992)

[Judgment January 26]

In order to enable the Court of Justice of the European Communities to provide an interpretation of Community law which would be useful for national judges, it was necessary for the latter to describe the factual and legislative background to the questions which they submitted.

The European Court of Justice so held in refusing to answer questions submitted to it by the *Pretura Circondariale di Roma, Sezione distaccata di Frascati* [Rome District Magistrate's Court, Frascati Section] for a preliminary ruling pursuant to article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

Those questions had been submitted in the context of *proceedings between the applicant* companies, who were owners of television transmitters, on the one hand, and the Department for the Construction of Telegraph and Telephone Networks of Rome, the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications and the Ministry of Defence on the other.

The dispute related to the interpretation of the Treaty's rules on competition with a view to establishing the compatibility with Community law of certain aspects of the national system of distributing frequencies for television broadcasters.

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities ruled as follows:

The Commission had pointed out in its observations that the references for a preliminary ruling were particularly laconic and lacking in detail with regard to the elements of fact and of law which would make it possible to establish the purpose of the questions submitted and thereby to understand their meaning and scope.

The need to arrive at an interpretation of Community law which would be useful for a national court required that the latter should *define the factual and* legislative background to the questions which it submitted or at least that it explain the premises on which those questions were based.

Those requirements were particularly necessary in the field of competition which was characterised by complex factual and legal situations.

The orders referring the questions contained no indications in that regard.

Although the file submitted by the national court as well as the written and oral observations submitted by the parties had provided certain information for the Court, none the less that information was fragmentary and did not enable the Court, in the absence of sufficient knowledge of the facts upon which the national proceedings were based, to interpret the Community competition rules in the light of the situation which had given rise to those proceedings as the national court invited it to do.

On those grounds the European Court ruled:

It was not necessary to rule on the questions submitted.

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We are currently looking to expand the senior section of our temporary team. To do this we need professional, flexible Secretary/PAs with director-level experience, excellent wp skills and preferably shorthand. You will be working in interesting and challenging bookings with our prestigious clients in central London. In return for your commitment we will guarantee £8.50-£9.00 for every assignment. Age: 26-35. (80/60/Windows/5.1 or DTP). West End: 071 437 6032. City: 071 377 9919.

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Salary c£18,000 - Central London

Our client which is a leading organisation involved with Horse Racing requires a person who in addition to possessing the normal secretarial skills and being numerate, will be able to interrelate with the Media and deal with the many organisations within the racing and betting industries.

This position also requires the ability to take Board minutes and to follow up agreed decisions.

We think that this is an exciting and fulfilling position which requires consummate social skills, self motivation and an ability to make decisions.

Write in the first place enclosing CV to: David Newton, Wren Management Services, 47 High Street, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey KT1 1LQ

PARTNER'S SECRETARY

c.£13,000-£14,000

We are a firm of Chartered Accountants which requires the services of a shorthand secretary, with first class WP/audio skills. If you have a confident telephone manner, a good standard of spoken and written English and a flexible attitude, please contact Julia Sinclair for further details on:-

071 388 7000
(no agencies)

PA/OFFICE MANAGER ARCHITECTS & DESIGN

Exercise your excellent secretarial and PA skills at Chief Executive level in a design and architectural practice in W1. In a quality conscious environment, you'll also establish a new management function to co-ordinate secretarial and administrative support whilst ensuring that building facilities run smoothly. You will have a positive personality, relevant background, 60 wpm+ and office management/ supervisory experience. Age late 20s/30s. Salary to £20,000.

Please contact Jane Morgan on 071 256 6668 29 Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2LT or fax on 071 256 7273

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Stop Searching to £18,000

Top Executive Search firm based in W1 seek a first-class, outgoing secretary who will enjoy working for a busy and challenging director. Fielding telephone calls, liaising with clients and candidates and most importantly using your initiative - this is an involving job requiring hard work and commitment. Fast audio typing skills essential (60wpm +). Age 28-40. Please call Virginia Wancke on 071-434 4512.

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Please send handwritten letter and c.v. to: Annabelle Lawrence, AYH Partnership, 40 Clifton Street, London EC2A 4AY 071-618 1225

SECRETARY

A management Surveyor of a long established property investment company based in Mayfair seeks a capable SHORTHAND/AUDIO SECRETARY, preferably with some experience, to work as part of a young lively team. The successful applicant must have a good standard of education, be well spoken and presentable with plenty of initiative and a good sense of humour. Shorthand/audio-typing skills of minimum 95/60 wpm and very good organisational ability.

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Please write with full c.v. details to Patricia Gatehouse, Chesterfield Properties PLC, 38 Curzon Street, London W1Y 8EY. (No Agencies)

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A French speaker with English mother-tongue is required by the Director of this Medical Group. Organise and go to conferences, be a meticulous organiser and use 80 wpm SH.

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Zarak Hay Partnership

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We are a small Securities Company whose Chairman and four Executive Directors need an experienced secretary to look after them. The applicant should be resilient, well presented with a sense of humour and have endless patience and common sense. Shorthand is not necessary. Duties will include managing the diaries and arranging travel. The W.P. system is Word for Windows, experience of Lotus 123 would be an advantage. This is not an elitist position, we all have some grunt work to perform.

The office is friendly, exhausting, but fun and the rewards are excellent!

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Office Angels

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We are seeking an office secretary for a range of interesting duties including some administration work. Good secretarial skills (including audio, shorthand and knowledge of WordPerfect) together with a confident telephone manner are essential. The Company is based in Park Royal, NW10.

For more information please contact 081 961 7725

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Confident, cheerful, organised, efficient Sec/PA with good WP (WordPerfect), SH and Database skills. Small Co. with high-level involvement, lots of client contact. Work to cover all aspects of general office admin, team spirit and professional manner.

Salary £12,000

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c. £18,000

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Want to know the good points? Then call Jane and Shelagh on

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ADventure Personnel rec cons.

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Smart, well spoken, well presented.

Audio, efficient shorthand, with in depth knowledge of word perfect 5.1. To join our team in an exciting new venture in the West End.

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Are you the power behind the phone?

ANNOUNCING THE TIMES PROFESSIONAL SECRETARY OF THE YEAR AWARDS 1993

Versatility, adaptability and professionalism are the key attributes of today's secretary. She or he should be capable of adapting to a constantly changing role, should be proactive rather than reactive and be able to act on behalf of the boss.

"In short," says Rhiannon Chapman, the director of the Industrial Society which has over 30 years' experience in secretarial training and development, "I would expect my secretary to take on more than is simply detailed in the job description and to want to develop a role."

Mrs Chapman will open this year's London Secretary and Office Management Show to be held at the Blue Hall, the Barbican Centre, in the City, from March 30 to April 1. She will also present the prize to the winner of *The Times* Professional Secretary of the Year.

As one of the judges she will be looking for the above qualities in the finalists — plus another she considers important — the ability to network. "By this I mean skill in building up relationships with people at different levels within the company, so increasing the possibility of ironing out problems as they arise."

Valerie Greet, the chairman of the European Association of Professional Secretaries (EAPS), acted as judge for last year's competition. She found it challenging. "The overall standard of written presentations by entrants was very high and by the time we reached the stage of interviewing the shortlisted candidates we were faced with a very high calibre field. Selecting the finalists and the eventual winner was a very difficult task," she says.

Her colleague Barbara Smith, the national secretary of EAPS UK, who will be among the judges this year, expects to find the task equally demanding. What will she be looking for?

Miss Smith values professionalism and flexibility. "The winner will need to demonstrate the capacity to adapt to change and cope with new demands, including those imposed nowadays on secretaries by new technology," she says. They should show a willingness to gain a thorough knowledge of the organisation they work for and their boss's role.

The competition is being sponsored by *The Times*, EAPS and the Industrial Society. Entries for the competition are now being accepted. The judges are looking for professionalism, adaptability, diplomacy and a high level of competence.

Jeremy Reed, the commercial director of *The Times*, points out: "Secretaries are front-line communicators, the first contact for customers. *The Times* is committed to the cause of greater understanding and awareness of the role of the senior secretary and PA. Our competition makes a significant contribution towards that aim."

Who should enter? Most readers of this column are likely to be good candidates. If you regularly look at the job advertisements in the *Crème de la crème* pages of *The Times* you are already working at or aspiring to senior level work. You doubtless possess the skills and qualities required and just need the confidence to enter.

You need not be working for a managing director or chief executive, but you will need a supportive boss. Entry to the competition does require his/her backing and some time off work to attend the interviews.

However, bearing in mind that some reflected glory rubs off on the employer of the year's "top secretary", most bosses are supportive.

Employers, incidentally, need not be afraid that secretaries will be asked to give away any secrets at interviews about their role. Discretion, the judges emphasise, is something they expect from their own secretaries.


DENZIL McNEELANCE

Rhiannon Chapman: "Secretaries should want to develop a role"

GUIDELINES FOR ENTRANTS

Entry forms for *The Times* Professional Secretary of the Year Awards are now available from Peter Haill and Associates, Victoria House, 98 Victoria Street, London, SW1E 5JL (Tel. 071-915 0054). The closing date for competition entries is March 1.

Entrants will be asked to send with the completed form a detailed CV, information about their current and two previous jobs and two references. The form must be countersigned by the current employer.

Entrants must also list their technical skills, including knowledge of word processing packages and any languages they speak. There are *no* minimum shorthand or typing speed requirements. Entrants will also be asked to provide information about two situations in which they have demonstrated their initiative and organisational ability.

Examples suggested include initiating personnel policies or setting up a complex conference or international trip. Supporting documentation must be provided, and this section must be countersigned by a manager stating that the candidate did the work as claimed.

Candidates who are shortlisted will be asked to write a 750-word definition of professionalism and what it means in their workplace.

Then comes a day of skills tests and panel interviews to be held at the Industrial Society in London on Monday, March 22. (Expenses will be reimbursed.) Finalists will be selected through further interviews. The results will be announced on the first day of the London Secretary and Office Management Show, where the winner and finalists will be presented with their prizes.

THE PRIZES

THE prize for the winner is a short break for two in Geneva courtesy of Holiday Inn and Swissair. There will also be an Industrial Society course of her/his choice worth £500 and purchases to the value of £500 from the Next Directory.

Five runners up will each receive a weekend break for two in a UK Holiday Inn, £50 worth of purchases from the Next Directory and books to the value of £25 from the Industrial Society. Each entrant will receive a free ticket to the show and refreshments at the Holiday Inn stand.

TO ADVERTISE CALL: 071 481 9994

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FAX: 071 782 7828

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100wpm S/hand, a grounding in Wordperfect 5.1 or Word for Windows & the ability to think on your feet & you're perfect! Wonderful benefits too.

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Good Scope for development in this EC4 legal & compliance dept if you're WP skills & 3+ years relevant experience, ideally within banking.

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Experienced, energetic secretary (25-30) to run (with one other) busy, friendly office for Chairman of group of strategic consultancy business. Work also involves his numerous other business and non-business activities. Educated to "A" levels or above, must have good planning/organisational skills, excellent English, good Wordperfect 5.1. Calm, flexible, conscientious person with a sense of humour and ability to deal with VIP's. Starting salary £17,500 with review after 3 months, plus good benefits

Please fax letter & CV to Moira Walsh on 071 608 0089 to arrive no later than Tuesday 16 February

TELEVISION £12,000

Are you looking for a change? Due to promotion an exciting opportunity has arisen to work in this friendly young company. If you are young, bright with 50wpm typing, a flexible enthusiastic attitude and a willingness to learn this could be the chance for you to join a dynamic young team. Don't miss out - call us now.

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SECRETARY/PA - BAKER STREET

Property consultants require a well educated experienced secretary to work closely with two Senior Directors. Ideal candidate will be conversant with word perfect 5.1, have fast and accurate audio skills, excellent telephone manner and a non-smoker.

Apply in writing with CV and current salary to Mrs. D. Benjamin, Phillip Sinclair Knighton, 131 Baker Street, London, W1M 1FG marked confidential.

(No Agencies)

EXECUTIVE CREME

PA, AGE 25-35 CITY

SALARY NEGOTIABLE

High level role for PA to work in hugely successful division of well respected Lloyd's Brokers. Supporting two senior Directors duties will include extensive client contact. You must possess strong organisational skills, plenty of confidence plus an ability to use your own initiative. Coming from an insurance background you must also have a smart business-like appearance, be well spoken and hold excellent secretarial skills (Min 90/60).

Call Caren Moon at Inter-Selection (Recruitment Consultants) 16 Byward Street, London Tel 071 480 7220

Fax your CV if you can't phone on 071 481 9868

SUPER SECRETARIES

ACCOUNTABILITY £16,000. A small firm of fund managers based in lovely West End offices require a bright and flexible secretary with Double Entry bookkeeping to join their very busy team. Not only will you be responsible for providing efficient secretarial support, but you will also assist the accountant with day-to-day book-keeping matters. Use your good organisational skills to make travel and meeting arrangements and generally keep the office running smoothly. Skills: 'A' levels/Rusty SH/60 typ/ Lotus Symphony/ Sage. For more information please call Chicora on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

A PA to assist busy partner of fast expanding Corporate Recovery Specialists in West End. Good organisational and inter personal skills are essential requirements together with excellent typing and an ability to be flexible and hard working. Candidates should be well educated (A' levels or higher) and aged between 25-40. Salary c.£17,500. Please write with full C.V. to Nicola Thompson, Bachler Phillips & Co., 84 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9DF.

APPLEBIAC P.A £18,000 + pkg o/t for top international U.S. Consultancy W1. Must be extremely Mac literate & possess superb inter-personal and organisational skills. Age 25-32. O/A level ed. Val Wade Rec 071 437 3793.

ASSISTANT £16,000. Shorthand secretary/assistant (22-25 yrs) required to help busy MD & his PA. In this top 10 advertising agency. Really involving role with possibility to travel. Typing 65 wpm, shorthand 100wpm. Call Joanna HSR Rec Cons 071 323 5823.

BANKING Secretaries £25,000 plus. We are interested in secretaries keen to work for one of the best Investment Banks in London. Are you motivated by being part of a dynamic team, dealing with important clients and working under pressure? If so you're just what we're looking for. The rewards are high - an excellent banking package, stunning West End offices plus a great working atmosphere and good career prospects. Skills 80 Shorthand/60 Typing and computer literacy essential. Age 24-30. Please call Joanna on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

BECOME part of this successful US Co as Sec/PA to the MD. Use your well honed and outgoing personality together with your pro-active approach and Wordperfect 5.1 expertise to support this busy Director. Age 30+. Skills SH/WP 80/55. Salary c £18,000 + perks. Norton Rec Cons 071 625 2882.

BOOK-KEEPING/Sec - £16,000. Opportunity for a small, entrepreneurial company (4 people) based in lovely Mayfair offices as secretary. Varied duties including secretarial and administrative support, running a small office and some assistance with bookkeeping (double entry). Ideally experience in a small company. Age 23-32. Skills 70/60/WP. Some overseas travel. Please call Caroline Tuck on 071 437 6032. Hobstones Rec. Cons.

BRIGHT and Capable young secretary/ bookkeeper urgently needed for small investment management house in Mayfair. As well as PA work for the MD, you act as office manager and as assistant to the accountant. Therefore bookkeeping skills including double entry are essential as are rusty shorthand, fast accurate typing and WP/spreadsheet experience. Age guide 25-35. £16,000. Please call Gordon Yates (Rec Cons) on 071 493 5787.

BUSY Marketing/Events dept, need Exp Sec (N1). Lots of Client Contact, organising exhibitions etc. Must be smart/pro/ confident and have exc skills (60 wpm) WP 5.1. Age 23+ £12,000 neg. Tel 081 530 6999 Shakespeare Rec.

CHELSEA-based individual with diverse and highly absorbing interests needs like-minded, self-motivated PA to organise her life. Mornings preferred. 90/60 + WP. Sal c.£25,000. Please call Diana Anderson at Anderson Moore Assoc's on 071 824 8821 (rec cons).

CHELSEA Style, WP6.1 op with tables. Fun architect office, very smart. 20+ yrs. £14,000+. Call Debbie (Rec Cons) on 071 493 8999.

CHILDREN'S Charity £12,000. Enthusiastic secretary with fast accurate typing and computer literacy needed for this very worthwhile cause. Flexibility is the key quality as you deal with enquiries, acknowledge donations and help with fund raising events. Age 25-35. Please call Samantha on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

CHOCOLATE! Surely nobody can resist this job? It's with the World leader in confectionery, and a long term career with an outstanding employer is guaranteed. You need excellent sec skills, 100 wpm S/H, 70 wpm typing and a solid academic background. This is a true 1:1 role which demands maturity, commitment and commercial savvy. £16,000 and the best of benefits. Make sure you call Wendy if you're one of the crowd on 071 240 0040. Working Girls Rec Cons.

CONFERENCE organising experience essential for position as secretary to head of external conferences in large central London charitable foundation. Tact, maturity, excellent presentation. 'A' levels and 80/60. Age 25+. Circa £17,000. Please call Virginia on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

CONFERENCE PA - c£15,500. Excellent ops for organised sec to join busy dept. Skills 80/60 are a must. Definite involvement. Three years sec exp esp. 'A' levels, 24+. Call Graduate Appts (Rec Cons) 071 379 0333

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IMMEDIATE Start. £19,000. Senior Partner's PA with superb skills 100/50/WP sought for professional management consultancy in EC4. Age 25-35. Please call Esther Marsden on 071 377 9919, Hobstones Recruitment Consultants.

INTERIOR Design Assistant - prestigious firm. 24-28yrs. enthusiastic/hard working with some previous experience to work in team of 4, to include Sec/ Quals/SH/WP, experience/ French essential. Apply with CV: Michele Laurence. 39 Brook Street, London W1.

KENSINGTON W8. Small busy Estate Agents need young lively Secretary. 60 wpm type and min 3 years experience. Start now. £12,000 pa 071 727 6665

KINGSTON - Senior Secretary. Bright, outgoing secretary required by Sales Director of International Leisurewear Manufacturers. Articulate, age 30-40, Shorthand/typing essential. Must be car driver. Telephone Fiona Barnett. Catherine Toosey at Angela Mortimer on 071 287 7788 (Rec Cons).

KNIGHTSBRIDGE Secretary late 20's-30's with sh/typ (80/60). Use of WP to host & support person in HQ of major holding co. Professional background an asset to deal with steady work flow. c£17,000 pa + fringe bens. Joyce Guiness Rec 071 589 8807.

LEADING Interior Designer requires very bright and enthusiastic P.A. Secretary with Applemac M.S. Word exp. to run small but busy office and showroom in S.W.3. Excellent admin skills and experience in this field required. Salary neg. Non smoker. No Agencies. Tel: Lindy 071 376 8244

LEGAL Secretary good skills audio & WP Multimedia Send CV to Mr J Kemsley, 32 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH.

MATERNITY Leave: Mayfair Estate Agents require experienced receptionist/ secretary until end June. Good appearance and telephone manner essential together with knowledge of WP. To start immed. Call Emma 071 491 3154.

MEDICAL Secretary required for busy W1 General Practice. Please ring 071 935 8486.

MUSIC £14,500 + bens. Small, West End-based company seeks bright, enthusiastic sec. Initiative, tact, good communication skills and the ability to work as part of a team are all essential attributes. French/Spanish useful, not essential. Accurate keyboard skills (60+wpm) requested. Age guide 22-28. Please call 071 409 1232 The Work Shop.

MUSIC PA/Sec - c£16,000 + bens. Int'l organisation seeks enthusiastic sec. Fast, accurate skills 65wpm. Must be able to prioritise. Good telephone manner ess. 'A' levels + 2 years exp. min. Call Graduate Appointments (Rec Cons) 071 379 0333

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ORGANISED Secretary £16,500 plus 5% bonus and 5 weeks holidays, to arrange annual conference with delegates attending from all over the world. Legal/Company secretarial background ideal. 100 wpm shorthand essential. 55 wpm typing and WP exp. Min age 25 years. Please telephone 071 499 8070 - Elizabeth Hunt Recruitment Consultants.

PA/SEC £18,000 + bonuses + bens. Only the committed will survive in this demanding trading environment working as a right hand man. Shorthand and spreadsheet req. Call 071 439 7001, Secretaries Plus - the secretarial consultants.

PA to Tory MP. Busy workload. College Leaver or second jobber considered. £12,000 - £14,000. CV to Box No: 0961.

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PROFESSIONAL Secretary/PA with basic knowledge of bookkeeping and shorthand required for Belgravia based Interior Decoration Company. Salary negotiable. Please contact Fiona on 071 226 1777.

PROPERTY secretary with good skills & phone manner for established Chelsea Estate Agency. Circa £12-14,000. - Estate Agency Rec. 071-958 3855

PUTNEY to £14,000. Team spirited, flexible secretary needed for busy Architectural practice. Typing (60 wpm), faxing, photocopying and helping out where you are needed! Stunning offices, delightful people and lots of fun. Age 21-40. Please call Virginia on 071 434 4512. Crone Corkill Recruitment Consultants.

SALES Secretary £13,000 pa. Our client, a leading publishing house requires an A level educated individual to organise a busy manager and team of extensive client liaison. Experience of working within sales or marketing beneficial. 50 wpm also req. Call Simon Prior - Kelly Services 071 589 4554 (appt).

SEC. SH/Hand to £16K'+ Good bank perks. Exp on Word for Windows advantage. Age 25-35. Urgent. Get Apple 071 734 1066.

SEC/ Admin - knowledge of Russian commodity Markets/ W1 Co seek Sec for trading (pos. uni graduate) 80 wpm, SH useful. Min 18 months prev work exp. exc. Rsny (good). Tel 081 530 6399 (rec con)

£18,000 Secretary/ Administrator. Exciting opportunity for an experienced secretary who enjoys taking responsibility for a variety of tasks & is looking for an established company offering scope. Providing full secretarial support to the French V-P of this growing financial services company, you will also be responsible for general office management & running a prestigious reception. Smartly presented, you will have a mature, professional approach, real ability to use your own initiative & the flexibility to turn your hand to whatever is needed. French & Spanish useful. Age: 28+ Skills: 90/60 & WordPerfect 5.1 essential. The Recruitment Company 071-831-1220.

SECRETARY. SW10 req for busy Rentals Dept of leading Est Agent. Must be numerate, highly efficient & able to use initiative. WP skills & prev exp useful. £12,500-£14,500 pa neg according to exp. CV's to Emma Cooling, 440 Kings Road London SW10 OLH. No Agencies.

SECRETARY to the Directors. West End Stockbrokers. Profitable, well backed young and innovative. Seeks Secretary with strong admin, org & secretarial skills. Considerable client contact so excellent presentation a must. Salary £16,000. Write to Box No. 0943.

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Have a break, clickety-click

Many viewers are turned off by TV ads, but Bingo may lure them back. Robin Hunt reports



Is their number up? Television companies want to woo viewers back to ads such as for Gold Blend, above

The kettle, once the primary distraction for a bored television viewer, was long agousurped by the remote control and the video recorder as the bane of advertising agencies up and down the country.

Although we still watch more than three and a half hours of television every day (including 33 commercials) this still relatively new technology is a serious threat to the £2 billion a year television advertising market. A recent Newspaper Publishers' Association study suggested that each month more than half the £170 million spent on television commercials is wasted. The arrival later this year of a voice-based controller for videos — with the facility to exclude advertisements merely by shouting "zap it" — will not help, even if there is a chance to see the latest revelries of the Gold Blend couple.

Now there is potential salvation: television bingo. The future for advertising on commercial television could reside in the unlikely form of Hughie Green.

Commercial television stations have to work extremely hard both to capture audiences and to demonstrate to advertisers that the commercial breaks get results. Research by Young and Rubicam Media suggests that audiences tend to stray from one channel given the slightest incentive, making on-screen promotions for a same-channel programme an imperative. But audiences are also required to absorb far more brand messages than even five years ago, as adverts which are less than 20 seconds long have increased significantly.

Television companies thus find themselves caught in the dilemma between broadcasting self-promoting trailers and maximising the best advertising opportunities. With commercial television companies under intense pressure to make money Y & R also predict an increase in the sponsorship of programmes.

Hughie Green, 72, once the most famous gameshow host in the country, may no longer be on the screen, but his enthusiasm for television is undiminished. Ten years ago he proposed a television bingo programme for ITV, with certain key numbers in each bingo game being broadcast after the programme and through the ensuing week during the advertising breaks. The result, he claimed, would not only be a top rating programme, but would also renew audience attention in the advertisements which punctuate them. Bingo, Green discovered, was more popular than football; he decided to create a half-hour audience participation show *Your Number's Up*, with a cash jackpot. In those days the prize was to be £6,000, now it would be £25,000.



Green: resurrecting old idea

In 1983 several ITV companies were interested, but none took the plunge. After the deregulation of 1991 Green found more favour with the ITVA advertising committee which considered his proposals. But as yet Mr Green has not found a British taker. He says while the advertising committee approved, it was the "arty farty" programmers who turned him down.

Perhaps they will not always be able to be so choosy: Spain and Portugal already have *Go Bingo* which has been very successful. Plans are afoot for a German version. "I see it going out on a Sunday evening on ITV," Mr Green says, "with Des O'Connor or Michael Barrymore hosting the programme." He believes each show, including prizes and bingo cards could be produced for £100,000. With a sponsor and advertising revenue it would easily make money for ITV, he claims.

In Mr Green's format audiences would receive a pre-coded bingo card of 13 games — the number of programmes in the series. The cards would be distributed either by newspaper or through a supermarket chain — Mr Green envisages programme sponsorship by a big company. The audiences would then check off the numbers on their cards and, subsequently, during advertisements. Mr Green says the numbers would be broadcast perhaps six times a day, but not at regular times, thus forcing viewers to concentrate on all of the advertisements broadcast while they are watching television.

But what about accusations that this is cheap, down-market television? Here Mr Green becomes animated. His blue eyes grow steely with sincerity. This is a programme, he insists, for those who would not be able to afford the national lottery, not for people in black polo neck jumpers who watch Channel 4. "People less fortunate than you or I. Are we more downmarket than explicit sex programmes that talk about condoms and pretend it is for your education? I could not agree with that. This is a game which is played up and down the country in church halls and is called Housey-Housey." Mr Green's zeal is positively evangelical.

The ITC says there is nothing in principle to prevent *Your Number's Up* from becoming a staple on the ITV schedule, though there would be certain areas — particularly the way the bingo cards were distributed, which would have to be considered. So for Mr Green — if not for zapper manufacturers and video higher shops — opportunity appears to be knocking once again. Television bingo could join Pam Ayres, Bobby Crush and Showaddywaddy on Mr Green's list of screen credits.

Why figures reflect well on glossies

Jane Reed

Why are the latest circulation figures for glossy magazines looking so good? *Television ratings* are all over the place; newspaper circulations are holding — by their fingernails; but magazines? In the latest round of newly released audited figures there is a general air of optimism, with the glossies in particular showing circulation figures as voluptuous as their covergirls.

No one has the definitive answer about the success of the glossies — they just breath a corporate sigh of relief and wipe the blood from their noses. The clichéd reasons are probably the best: useful, yes, but in recession a magazine is one of the few affordable treats left.

Mike Matthews, chief executive of IPC Magazines cites, of course, higher reasons for the relative success of his titles: quality, availability, cautious cover pricing policy and increasing use of subscription marketing. And good research. "Research won't replace gut instinct, but it's like radar. The more titles there are floating around out there, the more you need to focus on your flight path so that you don't keep bumping into the competition. You could fly by the seat of your pants in the old, empty sky, days. These days research defines a clear flight path for you."



On a high: Marie Claire figures are up 39.2 per cent while Alexandra Shulman's Vogue sells more than ever

Well, yes. But even those jumbo jet titles with almost identical liveries are showing a smidge of circulation energy at last. For almost the first time since the invasion of the German circulation snatchers an IPC woman's weekly title has put on circulation: *Woman* is up year on year by a magnificent 79 copies. And MD of the weeklies Nigel Davidson insists the trend on the other three — *Woman's Own*, *Weekly* and *Realm* — although still down, is much improved. The full benefits of the sale or return distribution policy have yet to be seen, but the next half year will be telling.

No ifs and buts about IPC's TV titles and their glossies. Newcomer *What's On TV* is up 18 per cent year on year at 1,431,398, in spite of all the competition from other listings sources. And once again even though the press release wastes far too much space rubbishing rivals over at National Magazines. At 186,162 *Vogue* has its highest figure in 77 years of UK publishing; a small but perfectly formed 2.3 per cent increase (which compared with the previous six month's figure looks to be due to a lift in overseas sales) thanks to Alexandra Shulman. I don't care if *The New York Times* did criticise the new editor's style by carping that "she looks like a graduate student all dressed up to defend her thesis". Heaven save me from crispy thin New York ladies who bitch: don't they know designer-grunge from Lacroix? *Tatler* is now "the leading society magazine" at 71,423. The UK edition of *Vanity Fair*, still heavy on overseas sales, is "moving forward to a new record of 70,243".

At National Magazines, MD Terry Mansfield says he is "greatly impressed" by the continuing success of his stable of titles. *Good Housekeeping*, under the steady editorship of Sally O'Sullivan, has put on 14 per cent year on year, up to 446,219. *House Beautiful*, I am asked to point out, is now selling more copies than any other home interest title since records began. No wonder; the editor, Pat Roberts is a real pro. As a publisher I always said that the home interest sector was the first to feel an oncoming recession, and the first to see the green shoots of recovery. If I am right, Mr Lamont should be told. Sex and psycho-babble *Company's* powerhousing along at 250,550, a useful 13 per cent increase. Everything else is up there except *Harpers & Queen* which, as the helpful Condé Nast release tells us, has its lowest figure for ten years.

For whatever reason the giant EMAP magazine division will not release its figures until the end of March, but somehow I have the Emap Metro figures which include the film title *Empire*, up 26 per cent; *Q* is up and still dwarfing the other men's titles but the teen mags *Smash Hits* and *More* are down, due, we are told, to the fact that there are 22 per cent fewer teenagers.

Hello! continues to smile at everyone with its eighth consecutive six-month increase. With little or no promotion it has gossiped its way to 444,257.

Good news can be boring. Where are the black holes? Well, IPC's yachting titles are still in stormy waters — they are down year on year, although they have all improved on the previous half year. The green wellies are feeling the pinch with *Country Life* and *Horse and Hound* very slightly down, but frightfully common camcorder man is making up for it — *Video Camera* is up 8.6 per cent.

From where I sit, magazines are more and more professional, and targeting their audiences ever more precisely. Some of them are still showing signs of inadequate editorial budgets — the thinly spred feature cheats the reader — but by far the majority are giving editorial value for money. The hidden sale pushers, though, are more likely to be prosaic things like sale or return distribution and a drive towards more subscription sales.

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OPERA page 30
Thomas Hampson: his fine Figaro steals the show in The Barber of Seville at Covent Garden

ARTS

MUSIC page 31
Witold Lutoslawski at 80: his magnificent new symphony shows him at the height of his powers



Education departments attached to arts institutions are flourishing, writes **Andy Lavender**

Not just a class matter

We may say that these are thin times for the arts in Britain. But one area, against all the odds, has expanded over the last few years: not least because of the wit, imagination and hard work of its proponents. It is a hidden world, yet its impact may yet change your art-going habits and those of your children.

Against a backdrop of increasingly severe restrictions of funding, the education departments attached to arts institutions have gone from strength to strength. They are reaching wider numbers of people and gaining praise for the sophisticated ways in which they operate.

"The approach is not to say, 'We've got something here which is good for you, and we are going to find ways to make you like it'," says Sue Robertson. She set up the South Bank Centre's education department in 1986. "It is much more about developing people's confidence and their critical faculties."

> 'The approach is about developing their confidence and their critical faculties'

This summarises the code of all the education officers to whom I spoke. For the moment this is a tale of London companies, but there is now educational work attached to middle- and large-scale arts venues across the country. There are of course pragmatic considerations: funding bodies such as the Arts Council are impressed at evidence of this kind of activity. But the awareness exists that deeper and less tangible riches have still to be tapped. It was a sign of the times, perhaps, when the Institute of Contemporary Arts, perceived by many as a shrine to the esoteric, appointed its first education officer just over a year ago. The incumbent, Kim Sweet, describes her role as one of "opening up that elitism, making the work accessible".

When Richard Eyre became director of the National Theatre he insisted on the importance of the educational aspect of the company's activities. His stated ambition of always having a show for young audiences in the repertory has not yet been achieved, but progress has been consistent and the National has two such shows, Roel Adam's *The Day After Tomorrow* (which opened last week) and Alan Ayckbourn's *Mr A's Amazing Maze Plays* (opening on March 4), at the Cottesloe within a month.

Similarly, one of David Pountney's first moves on becoming director of productions at English National Opera was to appoint two staff directors to run the Baylis Programme (ENO's outreach work). This was so named in an attempt to avoid the seemingly pious term "education" altogether.

The initiatives since developed by Pountney's lieutenants, Rebecca Meitlis and David Sulkin, epitomise the new vistas of arts education. "We look at areas where we think opera hasn't had a real effect," says Sulkin. "We've worked with university students in Sussex, at the centre of a council estate in south-east London, and in the coalfields of Yorkshire. Our principal focus is on the child, adolescent or adult as a creative person themselves."

This entails a range of approaches, from family days in the theatre to long-term projects in schools, where children might also write their own opera. For those especially committed, there are opera groups for both children and young people. Members of both are currently singing in the chorus in the revival of Pountney's successful production of *Carmen*.

All education departments know that if they can excite teachers, their effect is disseminated more rapidly. Hence the Baylis Programme runs workshops for teachers before engaging with the students themselves. A project recently initiated explores the world and music of Janáček's *The Adventures of Mr Broucek*. Meitlis scripted a more vernacular version for the children to prepare in workshop and perform. This *sounds* worthy, but how successful is this kind of initiative in reality?

Colin Lewis, one of the teachers involved, is head of creative arts at Pimlico School. "Absolutely brilliant," is his cool assessment of the Baylis Programme's work. "For a lot of children who just want to play house music or ragga, here's their first experience of opera. When the Baylis Programme workshopped *Carmen* some years ago, they had kids who had never done any opera running around the hall singing all the big songs. It was terrific."

Nor, he points out, are these simply exercises in enjoyment. "With *Mr Broucek* there is a lot of research work. We are talking about contemporary politics, what's happening in Czechoslovakia. It is real cross-curriculum work, because there is a wonderful opportunity to explore it with history teachers, geography teachers, art teachers. My colleagues are giving me stick because they cannot be involved enough."

One of the most teacher-friendly schemes I encountered is Interact, operated by the National Theatre in association with W H Smith. "The idea is that teachers have a hotline to the National," explains the head of education at the National, Jenny Harris. "*They* phone *us* up and say 'You might think we need workshops on Stanislavsky. Actually we don't. What we want is this . . . ' " At which point, resources permitting, the National dispatches the appropriate professional to any point in the country.

This kind of contact — where the artists work directly with schoolchildren — will do as much to demystify the theatre profession as the National's more high-profile educational events, the tours of productions (complete with after-show workshops and discussions) and the Lloyds Bank Theatre Challenge, which hands over the National's stages to anything up to a dozen young companies.

Being older than 25 no longer guarantees that you are education-proof. A stone's throw from the National Theatre, the South Bank Centre claims to be involving more people every year, including the most unlikely participants. A class of seniors, all over 55, are taking lessons on the gamelan (a collection of Far Eastern gongs and percussion instruments).

"Years ago I saw these instruments and thought they were beautiful," says classmember Jean Cardy. "People tend to get hooked. You can play something at the end of two hours — but you can keep studying for the rest of your life."

Consider this, along with developments elsewhere in the Centre (next door at the Hayward Gallery, for instance, a roster of artists lead popular talks and workshops addressing the current exhibition), and a picture emerges of multifarious experiences of the arts. The hand of the sponsor waves rather visibly at some of these events, but one can hardly cavil at the many and long-lasting benefits to the public which the sponsors' money makes possible.



Illustration by Korky Paul for Mr A's Amazing Maze Plays, which are opening at the Cottesloe on March 4

ARTS BRIEFING

Verdi up for Auld Reekie

NO FEWER than 14 orchestras are lined up for the 1993 Edinburgh Festival (August 15 to September 4). There will also be a season of Verdi opera (confirming festival director Brian McMaster's stated intention to build up the operatic content), and concerts devoted to the music of the highly-rated young Scottish composer, James MacMillan.

Preliminary plans for 1993 also include productions by four top theatre directors: Robert Lepage, Peter Stein, Klaus Michael Gruber and Robert Wilson. The Mark Morris Dance Group returns to the festival, and another leading American dance company, the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, makes its festival debut. Despite a small drop in ticket sales last year, the 1992 festival achieved a £190,000 surplus, wiping out a £180,000 deficit accumulated over prior seasons.

● THE Hackney Empire, where Charlie Chaplin learnt his craft and Marie Lloyd raised the rafters, will close unless up to £200,000 is raised by friends and actors. Roland Muldoon, the artistic director, described the financial crisis at the north-east London theatre as the result of "a treble whammy".

Hackney Council, which has always waived the Empire's rates bill, has decided to deduct the sum from the theatre's grant, according to Muldoon. The theatre has not been able to release an incentive grant from the Arts Council because it narrowly missed generating enough cash and a television deal with ITV, which plans to screen shows from the cult 291 Club held at the Empire, has been postponed.

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THEATRE: Reviews of two acclaimed productions which have transferred to the West End

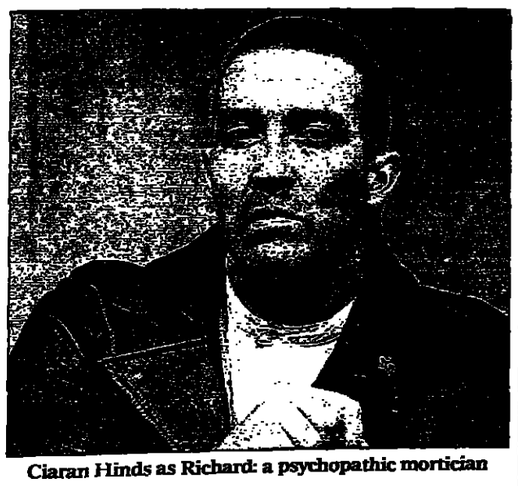
Not usurped, replaced

When Simon Russell Beale succumbed to the Curse of Crookback — a slipped disc, a trapped nerve, or maybe a fallen hunch — the call went out from Royal Shakespeare Company headquarters for a temporary replacement. I did not see the job description, but presumably it went like this. "Wanted, experienced **Richard III** for brief run at the Donmar Warehouse. Hump, withered arm and evil laugh optional, but must stand comparison with foul bunch-backed toads, bottled spiders, hedgehogs, dogs, hateful rooting hogs, boars, devils, fiends and Hell's evil intelligencers."

That appeal has brought us Ciaran Hinds, who played the part at the Glasgow Citizens seven years ago and will be re-embodying it until Russell Beale returns, probably when Sam Mendes's production moves back to Stratford. The performances are fascinatingly different.

Russell Beale was as outrageous a bogeyman as I have seen, a tiny, scrubbed clown who looked like a depraved blend of Mr Punch, a neo-Nazi skinhead and A.A. Milne's Piglet. Where he scuttled, Hinds lopes. Where he squatted, Hinds looms, a massive blend of Boris Karloff in his monster mode, a tree afflicted with Dutch elm disease, and a psychopathic mortician in search of trade.

Which is the better? Neither. Each uses his build and his looks to give a highly distinctive interpretation. Russell Beale's Richard is the more brilliantly original, but Hinds the more menacing and inner. He raises his voice little, knowing as he obviously does that it is more sinister when he levels it down from its usual gravelly purr into a sepulchral whisper. When he accuses Hastings of witchcraft, it is in a blend of sigh and creak; and the poor chap freezes, realising he is doomed long before Hinds seizes him by the neck and half-strangles him on the spot.



Ciaran Hinds as Richard: a psychopathic mortician

How this Richard could claim to have lost his "alacrity of spirit and cheer of mind" beats me, because from the start he cuts a sour, grim figure, gripped by a power-lust that, whatever his successes, can never satisfy him. Suspicion, unease, fear are there throughout, as is something darker. How often do we feel that Richard's desperate attempt to marry his niece is a sin? Here, it is creepily, sleazily incestuous. How often do we believe that the ghosts he sees before Bosworth represent his own conscience? Far more than Russell Beale's gleeful goblin, Hinds's Richard convinces us that, in a sick, puzzled way, he feels guilt.

Mendes's rough-theatre production, fine as it still is, has not fully adjusted to Hinds's arrival. Its cartoon grotesqueries — Hastings's head in a brown-paper parcel with his place-name perched upon it — fit Beale's performance better. But if Hinds misses some of the demonic comedy, he emerges with more psychological plausibility. His Richard is a lugubrious serial killer, punishing the world for his own self-hatred: a performance worth catching.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Wintry smiles aplenty

After playing to capacity houses at the Almeida, Harold Pinter's absorbing, luminous play **No Man's Land** has transferred to the Comedy for a 12-week season, with its cast of four unchanged and Paul Eddington and Pinter himself in the leading roles of Spooner and Hirst.

A literary pedant, such as the minor poet Spooner appears to be, might object that nothing can be absorbing and luminous at the same time. The lie is given to this by the elegant power of Pinter's language, the confident dramatic technique that keeps springing surprises, shifting the balance of power within the conflict or abruptly ending a scene with a black-out.

These basic arts of playwriting, which in Pinter are raised to the nth degree, keep us intently absorbed in the doings of his mysterious characters as they prowl or strut around one another, casting light upon themselves but hardly dispelling their mystery. Only in Spooner's final speech did I sense that length was beginning to nibble away at my alertness to content.

Hirst, a man of literary eminence, has struck up a conversation with Spooner while wandering about on Hampstead Heath and has brought him back to his magisterial home. The room that Bob Crowley has designed is funereal, with not a picture on its charcoal-grey walls; even the spines on the rows of books are forbiddingly black. It is comfortably furnished, and ranks of bottles are on parade in the drinks trolley, but the comfort is pitiless. The winter of Hirst's soul is in the room, the winter of no man's land "which never moves, which never changes", where the paralysis at the close echoes the seemingly casual opening exchange when Hirst, pouring whisky, asks "As it is?" and Spooner replies, "As it is, yes please, absolutely as it is."

To Spooner's hunched bearing, bird-like jerks of the head and air of patient supplication, Eddington adds the watchfulness of a man calculating when to pounce, when to keep silent, when to take advantage of his host's withdrawal of command. It is an exquisitely observed performance, marking the points of his cautiously mounting confidence with the decision to sit, to cross his legs, to venture his first contradiction, until he feels able to watch, unmoving, his drunken host crawl on all fours from the room.

The role of Hirst brings Pinter back to the London stage after 24 years, and his presence in the play gives David Leveaux's production an imprimatur. Pinter's thick-set figure and pugnacious jaw give Hirst the shape and semblance of power but in his bleak, dead stare, and the brittle liveliness of his reminiscences, we see the hollowness of the man's achievements, his weakening hold on life.

If this all sounds very sombre, the evening is also intensely funny, studded with tart wit and neat deflations.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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22CS5240/05T	26CS5774/05R	56KS5418/05R
22CS5350/05T	26CS5793/05R	56KS5447/05T
22CS5735/05T	27CS6895/05R	56KS5457/05T
22CS5740/05T	37CS5600/05S	56KS5487/05T
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Important: If you rent one of the above television sets you should firstly contact your rental company.

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

LONDON

BIRMINGHAM ROYAL BALLET: The company showcases David Bintley's *The Snow Queen*, inspired by the Hans Christian Andersen fable of the evil queen seeking an innocent child to warm her icy kingdom.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-278 8916). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mats today, Sat, 2.30pm

STIFFELIO: Verdi's stirring melodrama of a Protestant clergyman and his adulterous wife is triumphantly staged at Covent Garden. A strong cast features José Carreras (his final performance in the title role), Catherine Malfitano, Gregory Yurisich, Gwynne Howell. Sir Edward Downes conducts.
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, WC2 (071-240 1066/1911), 7.30pm.

LE CIRQUE IMAGINAIRE: The husband-and-wife team of Victoria Chaplin (daughter of Charlie) and Jean Baptiste Thierrée return with their troupe of acrobats, clowns and other performers.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, W6 (081-748 3354). Opens tonight, 7pm; then eves 7.45pm, until March 6.

TURNER: THE FINAL YEARS: The sixth and last of the shows in which the Tate has been examining, decade by decade, the working life of England's greatest painter. This show makes the point that, extraordinary though the late oils are, Turner was arguably even bolder in his last watercolours.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, SW1 (071-821 1313). Mon-Sat, 10am-5.50pm, Sun, 2-5.50pm, opens today until May 17.

ACADEMY OF ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS: Sir Neville Marriner conducts Lutoslawski's *Mala Suite*, Sibelius's Violin Concerto (with Leila Josefowicz) and Dvořák's Symphony No 9.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

MICHEL PETRUCCIANI: With the release of his fifth recording on Blue Note, the French pianist returns to Britain for a brief tour. Initially classically trained, this bright, articulate player is considered to have the makings of one of the most outstanding romantic virtuosos in contemporary jazz.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

REGIONAL

HULL: John Godber's acclaimed company **Hull Truck** revives the 1992 success *April in Paris*: Al and Bet take their first trip to Paris after 13 years of marriage. Godber's *On The Piste* is opening in the West End this month.
Spring Theatre, Spring Street (0482 23638). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, until March 20.

LANCASTER: The **Scottish Chamber Orchestra** goes on a Contemporary Network tour with a programme of works by Scottish-based composers including Peter Maxwell Davies's latest (No 7) *Strathclyde Concerto* for double bass and orchestra. Other featured composers are the estimable Judith Weir and Edward Harper.
Great Hall, University of Lancaster (0524 593729), 7.30pm.

LEICESTER: Earthfall Dance presents *The Intimate Jig*, a new piece which continues the company's aim of expanding the boundaries of contemporary dance theatre with the use of other media.
Phoenix Arts Centre, 11 Newarke Street (0533 554854), 8pm.

BRIGHTON: The exuberant Irish band **Sultans of Ping F.C.**, back in the UK for a short tour, are poised to set the live circuit alight with their wickedly funny songs on the perils of discos ("Where's Me Jumper") and the joys of football ("Give Him A Ball & A Yard Of Grass").
Brighton Centre, East Wing (0273 203131), 7.30pm.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **ARTISTS AND ADMIRERS:** Ostrovsky's sharp, affectionate picture of a theatrical anthill in Russia circa 1880. Lovely performances by, among others, Sylvestra le Touzel and Philip Voss.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. 150mins.

■ **CAROUSEL:** Joanna Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphant revival of the Rodgers & Hammerstein fairground musical.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.15pm. 180mins.

◪ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC:** Robert Lindsay looks right as the nasally challenged hero but the production is too bustling to give enough room to the full poignancy of his fate.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 180mins.

☐ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA:** Final performances of the Olivier award-winning Abbey Theatre Dublin production of Brian Friel's play.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

◪ **THE DEEP BLUE SEA:** Rattigan's play on infatuation gets into high gear. Exemplary staging by Karel Reisz.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

☐ **HAY FEVER:** Very funny performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats, Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

☐ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND:** Anna Carteret, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done.
Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 165mins.

◪ **IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY:** Larks in the hospital common room: Ray Cooney farce with lots of laughs.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5.30pm. 135mins.

◪ **KING LEAR:** Solid, respectable performance by Tom Wilkinson in a low-powered staging by Max Stafford-Clark. With Saskia Reeves, Hugh Ross.
Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. 195mins.

☐ **KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN:** Tremendously glossy production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It coarsens the values of Manuel Puig's novel but Chita Rivera makes a striking vamp. (A new cast takes over from March 29 led by American actress Bebe Neuwirth.)
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. 160mins.

◪ **THE LAST YANKEE:** Subtle and touching Arthur Miller premiere: Zoe Wanamaker, Peter Davison lead a quartet of middle-aged Americans troubled by material success.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. 75mins.

☐ **LOST IN YONKERS:** Terrific performance by Rosemary Harris in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usual. Maureen Lipman gives good value as a loopy aunt.
Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins.

☐ **MISERY:** Nonsensical but chilling production of Stephen King's thriller.
Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-839 4488). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 150mins.

◪ **LA MUSICA:** Very intense dissection of past love by Marguerite Duras: Harriet Walter's charged performance provides interest.
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. 90mins.

☐ **NO MAN'S LAND:** Paul Eddington and the author in tense, sharply comic Pinter. Riveting stuff.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 130mins.

◪ **OUR SONG:** Peter O'Toole in Keith Waterhouse's play about a menopausal male's infatuation with a young woman. Neatly done though we only hear the man's point of view.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5070). Mon-Fri, 8.15pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. 135mins.

◪ **THE PRISONERS OF WAR:** Lively production of J.R. Ackerley's coded but clear drama about British officers tormented by love for one another. Astonishingly licensed by the Lord Chamberlain in 1925.
New End Theatre, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (071-794 0022). Tues-Sun, 8pm, mat Sun, 4pm. 115mins.

■ **RICHARD III:** Ciaran Hinds in Sam Mendes's memorable RSC production (see review, page 29).
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham Street, WC2 (071-867 1150). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2pm. 195mins.

☐ **ROBIN — PRINCE OF SHERWOOD:** Over-loud, ridiculous musical.
Piccadilly, Denman Street, W1 (071-867 1118). Tues-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, Sun, 3pm. 140mins.

☐ **TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT:** William Gaunt (replacing Simon Cadell), John Wells, Richard Kane, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Havergal's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's novel.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. 140mins.

☐ **THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA:** David Thacker's winning revival, Thirties style, both comic and romantic, delightfully acted — not least by a reproachful mutt.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.15pm, mat tomorrow, 2pm. 150mins.

LONG RUNNERS: ◪ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ◪ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) ... ☐ **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)**: Arts Theatre (071-836 2132) ... ☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ◪ **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**: Palladium (071-494 5037) ... ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-494 5400) ... ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... ☐ **The Woman in Black**, Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information from Society of West End Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **DAMAGE** (18): MP Jeremy Irons pursues destructive affair with his own son's fiancée (Juliette Binoche). Riveting version of Josephine Hart's novel, coolly directed by Louis Malle.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Chelsea** (071-351 3742/3743) **Curzon West End** (071-439 4805) **Empire** (071-497 9999) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Screen on the Hill** (071-435 3366) **Screen on Baker Street** (071-935 2772)

THE END OF THE GOLDEN WEATHER (PG): Twelve-year-old befriends a simpleton during one halcyon New Zealand summer. Kiwi classic, unevenly filmed by Ian Mune.
MGM Haymarket (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148)

FOLKS! (PG): Family problems drive Tom Selleck almost as crazy as his senile father. Horrible, botched comedy, with Don Ameche. Director, Ted Kotcheff.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683)

◆ **HONEY, I BLEW UP THE KID** (U): Amiable, inoffensive "I Shrunk the Kids" sequel, with Rick Moranis as the accident-prone dad with a 100-feet-tall tot who heads for Las Vegas. Director, Randal Kleiser.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

THE PUBLIC EYE (15): Life, times and longings of a tabloid photographer in the Forties (Joe Pesci). Annoyingly artificial. With Barbara Hershey; writer-director, Howard Franklin.
MGM Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Plaza** (071-497 9999) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CURRENT

◆ **BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA** (18): Gary Oldman as the Transylvanian legend, preying on Victorian London. Visually audacious, but cold to the touch. Francis Coppola directs.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Camden Plaza** (071-485 2443) **MGM Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426 915683) **Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Screen on the Green** (071-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

CHAPLIN (12): A skilled impersonation by Robert Downey Jr, but Richard Attenborough's bitty biographical epic never penetrates far inside the man or his career.
Lumière (071-836 0691) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

◆ **A FEW GOOD MEN** (15): Cocky naval lawyer (Tom Cruise) defends marines accused of murder. Devilishly seductive courtroom drama starring Demi Moore, Jack Nicholson; director, Rob Reiner.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **MGM Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **West End** (0426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

L.627 (15): The Paris police drugs squad's daily routine: stake-outs, violence, paperwork. Vividly filmed by Bertrand Tavernier, though too long for its material. Starring Didier Bezace, Nils Tavernier.
Renoir (071-837 8402).

◆ **RESERVOIR DOGS** (18): A jewel robbery goes haywire. Quirky tale of betrayal, loyalty and violence from bright new talent Quentin Tarantino. Stars Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth and Steve Buscemi.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) **MGM Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **MGM Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **MGM Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Odeon Kensington** (0426 914666) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332).

SWEET EMMA, DEAR BOBE (18): István Szabó's piercing portrait of disordered life in post-communist Budapest: his best film in years; strong performance from Johanna Ter Steege.
Metro (071-437 0757).

TOUS LES MATINS DU MONDE (12): Wonderful, melancholy portrait of French Baroque musicians Sainte-Colombe (Jean-Pierre Marielle) and his pupil Marin Marais (Gérard and Guillaume Depardieu). Also starring Anne Brochet; director, Alain Corneau.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

OPERA: **John Higgins** sees an American Figaro make a distinguished Royal Opera debut

Guesting stylist is a cut above

Il barbiere di Siviglia
Covent Garden

COUNT Almaviva does well to prick up his ears when the voice of Figaro is first heard off-stage. The title role in this revival of Rossini's *Barbiere* is being sung by Thomas Hampson, making a belated Covent Garden debut. Hampson's baritone has been praised regularly on this page from abroad in the recital room and opera house, most recently by Rodney Milnes in the Monte Carlo *Hamlet*, as well as on record. He deserves all his plaudits.

Hampson's Figaro leaps down to the footlights for "Largo al factotum" and takes over the show — and the audience. Everything about him is easy: the baritone which now has a rich mellowness and never shows any hint of strain, the stage movement lithe and fluent. There is even, praise be, a modest sense of humour, with an all-American college boy grin spreading across the face as things take another bad turn for poor Dr Bartolo.

The only complaint, a slightly churlish one, is that Figaro is not all that much of a part for so accomplished an artist. Once that opening number is over the Barber becomes a partner, first to Almaviva and then to Rosina (in "Dunque io son", beautifully executed), a man who makes the wheels go round. We need Hampson back in something more demanding, meatier even than the Marcello promised for midsummer.

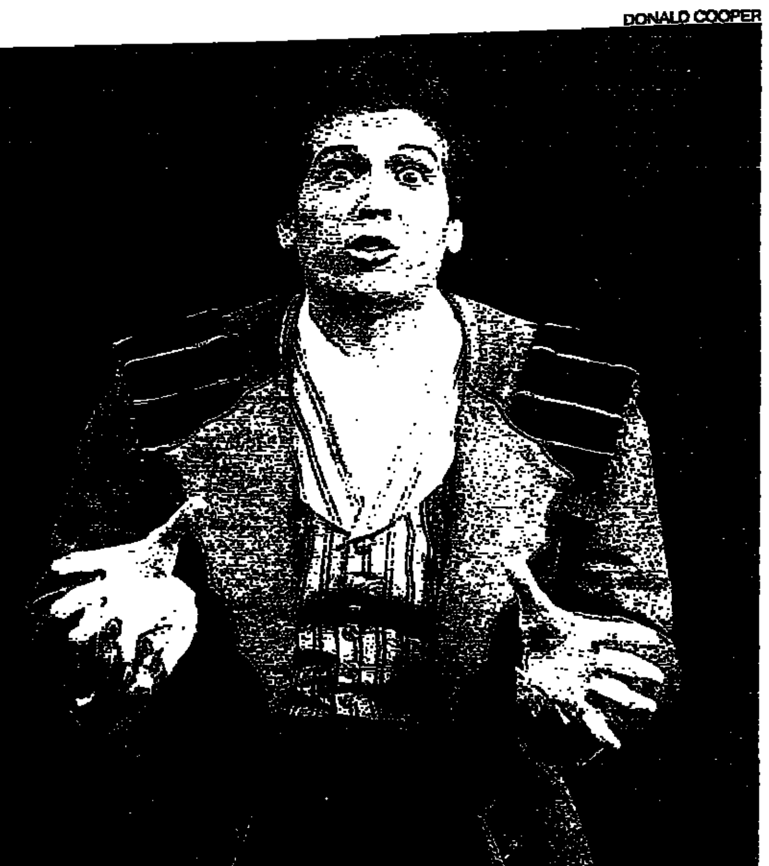
Around him Covent Garden has assembled a side of highly experienced Rossinians already heard in this production, or what remains of it. The indestructible Gabriel Bacquier is Bartolo, a thoroughly unsavoury old man with a chesty cough and a habit of snoring while others are making music. Bacquier is still the expert scene stealer, muttering to himself and then letting rip with a couple of notes that would credit an artist half his years. Simone Alaimo was said to have 'flu, but his Basilio sounded in the pink, a scruffy figure but plump enough to have made a very decent living from scandal-mongering.

Jennifer Larmore is one of the most spirited and vibrant Rosinas around, a true mezzo bursting to get out of the tomb that is *casa* Bartolo. She impressed especially in "Contro un cor" and in her plotting with Figaro. A resourceful pair these would have made. Only Bruce Ford's Almaviva sounded off-colour. For much of Act I his tenor, particularly during the softer passages, sounded covered by the thin drizzle that has affected London these last few days. It cleared for a brighter second act, but too late.

Evelino Pidò in his first Garden appearance was a neat and delicate conductor. The ensembles were well pointed but, once settled in, he would do well to borrow some of Hampson's musical showmanship.

Note that there are multiple cast changes later in the month.

DONALD COOPER



Figaro (Thomas Hampson) takes over the show and the audience

CONCERTS: Distinguished but below-par visitors, a northern commission and an informal South Bank

On their world cruise

ONE of the many attendant dangers of touring if you habitually proclaim your own legendary status is that when the mask slips, however slightly, you are a legend no more. It is not enough, for instance, for the **Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra** to show off its wonderfully smooth string sound if the machine's cogs are not perfectly engaged.

They were not, it seemed, in the VPO's concert with **Sir Georg Solti** on Monday night, for ensemble work was less than immaculate in the first movement of Mendelssohn's "Italian" Symphony, and even the normally rock-solid woodwind intonation proved to be less than completely reliable. Nor is it wise to play anything as though it were about as challenging as making a cup of tea. Even if, for the VPO, such is the case with this particular work, any performance needs to feel slightly risky if it is to work. This one seemed dangerously complacent.

If anything, Solti, conducting with his usual pixie-like vitality, seemed intent on compensating too much for that attitude, driving the outer movements with maniacal momentum. There was, moreover, a measure of uncertainty about his chosen tempo for the intermezzo-like third movement, where the line, instead of floating and flowing easily, seemed awkward, adjacent notes as reluctant to part from each other as Velcro strips. Sobriety, not a conspicuously Italian trait (though too often a Mendelssohnian one), was the order of the day, rather than freshness, freedom and fire.

Perhaps the main effort had been reserved for Shostakovich's Fifth Symphony after the interval. If so, the opening movement of that work proved to be a severe disappointment. Where was the sense of the epic, the raw, rasping gesture, the cogent architecture? Instead we had a wooden tread, and a decidedly odd blend, those great unison statements resounding awkwardly. The succeeding Allegretto was again curious, the Viennese sweetness counteracting the savage satire of the outer sections and negating the dry wit of the trio.

Yet Solti is a conductor of vision, and when the music suited he helped the VPO come to its own rescue. Qualities of intensity and richness, passion and genuine involvement, surfaced in the third, slow movement.

No critic could question music-making like this, nor fail to be moved by it. It prepared the ground for a suitably momentous finale in which the darker side of the music was carefully kept to the fore. When, as here, this orchestra understands, it really does have few rivals.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Too many old echoes

THERE is little outward sign of the Charter Centenary celebrations in **Leeds** — nothing as sensational as the new concert hall the city so richly deserves, but nothing as basic either as a refurbishment of the cheerless foyers and corridors which come between the public and the auditorium in the Victorian town hall. There are, on the other hand, inward signs, like the new scores commissioned by the City Council to mark the occasion and, with luck, to prolong its reverberations for the next hundred years or more.

Howard Blake's new Violin Concerto certainly has reverberations, but if they are to be carried into the next century, it will be by the works where they originated. The strings' quiet ostinato background for the entry of the soloist could be taken as a tribute to tradition and the similar beginnings of violin concertos by Mendelssohn or, more likely, Sibelius.

The problem is that once the ear has been alerted to precedent, it goes on listening for it. In spite of the English pastoral turn in the main theme on the violin, more Sibelius seems to follow, and then Walton, and others. The composer's declared consciousness of "the extraordinary heritage of past masterpieces" is very understandable. But is the *Symphonie Espagnole* such a masterpiece that most of Blake's last movement has to be devoted to something very like Lalo's most popular tune?

The most personal movement in the new work is the second, a tranquil Adagio which, though its orchestral climax is scored like the big number in an old-fashioned Broadway musical, is most effectively written for violin. Indeed, much of the violin writing is skilfully and attractively done and was obviously appreciated by **Christiane Edinger**, who had committed the work to memory and prepared an impressively fluent account of it. Moreover, unlike Robert Saxton's Violin Concerto, also commissioned for Leeds Town Hall, it takes the awkward acoustic into account — though this does not make it a better work.

The conscientious partners in the first performance of Blake's Violin Concerto were **Paul Daniel** and the **English Northern Philharmonia**. Upset, no doubt, by an unfortunate disturbance in the hall during Rachmaninov's *The Rock*, the first item in the programme, they must have been consoled by an audience absorbed in a highly dramatic interpretation of Tchaikovsky's *Manfred* Symphony which, presented without cuts or alterations (except in a few details), would have convinced even Russian conductors that Tchaikovsky knows best.

GERALD LARNER

The more in, the less out

FAST becoming a cult figure, the Dutch composer Louis Andriessen is not an out-and-out minimalist, but his music has a strong element of evolving process that goes down well today. Messiaen's gigantic *Turangalîla Symphony* similarly makes its points more than once. It is every bit as insistent as any piece of Reich or Glass, with the difference that it uses an enormously inflated symphony orchestra.

Andriessen's *De Snelheid* and the *Turangalîla* both deal with perceptions of time, and the two works thus made an ideal pairing for the **BBC Symphony Orchestra** concert under **Mark Wigglesworth** at the Festival Hall. *De Snelheid* (the title means "velocity"), in the revised version for large ensemble (receiving its world premiere here), separates the players into three orchestras. Orchestras One and Two, placed on either side of the stage, interject in tandem as a pair of percussionists set a pulse and gradually increase it. Orchestra Three meanwhile generates a powerful momentum of its own, the drumming eventually becomes a *quasi-tremolo* and any sense of velocity is lost — a paradox that provides the *raison d'être* of the piece.

The games with tempo and rhythm, however, furnish the sole interest of the work. There is no variety of texture or thematic material: simply a prolonged series of crashes from various brass-dominated ensembles. The BBC SO, and especially the two (unnamed) players of wood-blocks, maintained an admirably cool head, but their entries would surely have been more confident had they had a little help from Wigglesworth's redundant left hand.

The *Turangalîla* offered little more variety of texture — surprisingly so, in view of the opulence of the forces. It makes its effect by the sheer density of sound and the intoxicating repetition of its rhythms — the musical equivalent of a rave party.

While there was no lack of excitement in this performance, and the climax of "Joy of the blood of the stars" was properly abandoned and ecstatic, it all lacked that final edge of sharpness and precision of ensemble (particularly in the last movement) that can set the place alight. The conductor and his left hand must take their share of blame. When audible, Joanna MacGregor and Cynthia Millar were making excellent contributions on the piano and ondes-martenot respectively.

These budget-price, sit-where-you-like BBC SO concerts are now reaching out to broader audiences, and all power to them. It does, however, seem strange to encourage casual behaviour in one part of the hall, while the stage is occupied by a penguin colony.

BARRY MILLINGTON

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Passion beneath the polish

Witold Lutoslawski, just turned 80, has a new symphony for Los Angeles and a festival in Britain. Richard Morrison reports


MALCOLM CROWTHERS

Witold Lutoslawski: out of the confusing clamour of competing styles in postwar composition, Lutoslawski has emerged as perhaps the most assured voice of them all

Courteously but firmly, Witold Lutoslawski tries to dampen the sensationalist urge in every journalist. No, his music does not "mirror" the persecutions, denouncements and bans that have marked his life. "My First Symphony, for instance, I conceived it during the German occupation of Poland. Any day you could be taken to Auschwitz, or shot in the street. Yet it is a rather cheerful work! For me, the two worlds, musical and actual, don't overlap. The musical imagination is an ideal world, in which one is lucky enough to spend several hours every day, unconstricted by the terrible realities of life."

The trouble is, nobody believes him. Beneath the sumptuous surface brilliance of Lutoslawski's music run passions that only the cloth-eared or stony-hearted could miss. His new Fourth Symphony (see review, below) is charged with emotion. Can Lutoslawski expect that music like this will not be linked to his turbulent life under Nazi and Soviet masters?

He does expect it. Even Rostropovich is gently rebuked for reading too much into the startling music-theatre of the 1970 Cello Concerto — written for him at a time when the great cellist was virtually a non-person inside the Soviet Union and when Lutoslawski himself had incurred Soviet wrath by condemning the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

"As Russians do, Rostropovich felt the need to attach extra-musical significance to the notes," recalls Lutoslawski. "He identified himself with the cello part, and then informed me that the trumpet which intrudes into his solo was 'the KGB'. And where the entire brass section bursts in, he said: 'That's the whole Central Committee!' I just laughed. It was never my intention to allude to politics."

Similarly, Lutoslawski denies that the functional, tonal music he wrote in the late 1940s (while secretly refining his avant-garde style) was composed under government pressure. "I wrote functional music, using folk songs, willingly and with pleasure. Remember that just after the war Polish life seemed ruined. So to compose something useful for schools, for amateurs, was a necessity. But when the Polish cultural minister *told* me to write something like Shostakovich's *Forest Song* — that terrible piece of kitsch! — I just said no. That was the minister who banned my First Symphony, saying that the man who wrote it should be thrown under a street-car."

Lutoslawski was 80 last month. His conversation sparkles; his tiny frame appears totally robust; his conducting remains vigorous; his creative impulse is undimmed. Last week, Los Angeles fêted him. Next week, Manchester has an eight-day celebration, including a Hallé concert conducted by the composer.

Out of the confusing clamour of competing styles in postwar composition, Lutoslawski has emerged as perhaps the most assured voice of them all. What are his hallmarks? First, the variety and memorability of his themes. "I don't like music which develops from a single cell."

Then, Lutoslawski deploys his themes like strong-willed characters clashing in a vivid piece of theatre. "Yes, large-scale music should have a plot, like a gripping novel or drama. The audience must be made curious: what happens next? This is not often the case with late 20th-century music."
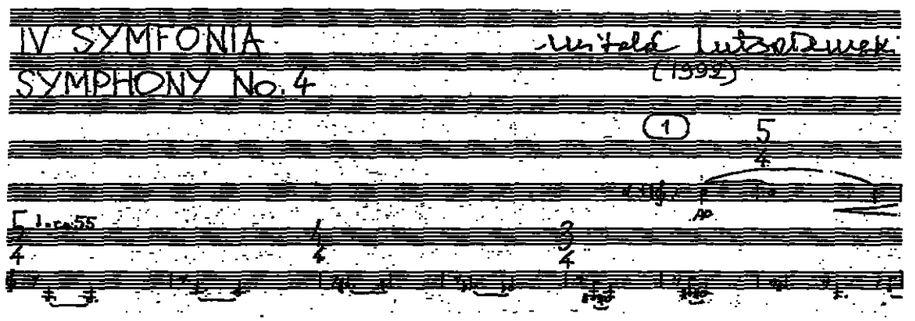
That is putting it mildly. Finally there is Lutoslawski's sophisticated handling of the symphony orchestra ("an anachronism, a museum, but irreplaceable") and his equally unique manner of setting players free from the conductor's beat, while calculating exactly how the result will sound. "There's no improvisation in my music. I don't believe in it. Orchestral musicians are not equipped to compose."

All this Lutoslawski worked out alone, unaided (or unhindered) by fellow composers. "I realised early, after my First Symphony in 1948, that the language of this work promised nothing for the future. I began again from scratch. I said to myself: I know nothing; there's no model to follow; nothing that can possibly help me. So I started experimenting with sounds. I never thought out a doctrine. I discovered my own rules."

Nothing could have been further removed from the methods of the post-Schoenberg school in France and Germany, forced down the cul-de-sac of rigid serialism. Nor did Lutoslawski ever become too grand to change direction. Writing his Third Symphony, he spent two years on the main movement, then threw the whole thing away and started afresh.

Another great 20th-century original, Olivier Messiaen, exactly caught Lutoslawski's genius: "Most people as they grow old are merely confirmed in the traits of their youth; but Lutoslawski grows more and more modern." He hasn't finished yet.

● *The Manchester festival, "Lutoslawski Live", opens on Friday with a concert at the Free Trade Hall. Details: 061-275 4982/4504*



LUTOSLAWSKI'S new Fourth Symphony, commissioned by the Los Angeles Philharmonic and admirably premiered in Los Angeles last Friday under the composer's direction, is a magnificently taut work. It is in one movement, just half an hour long, yet it is loaded with incident, drama and compellingly beautiful sounds.

From the start Lutoslawski sets up a conflict. On the one hand is a haunting clarinet solo, sad and chromatic, striving to break free from a throbbing, funereal bass line. Later, that is transformed into a violin tune of melting lyricism, and later still into a strings-and-brass unison as impassioned as anything Lutoslawski has ever written.

On the other hand are strident calls-to-arms. First comes a solo trumpet, breaking the elegiac mood of the opening. Then the whole orchestra is treated like a sonic battering-ram, with hammered chords punctuated by dramatic silences in the manner of Sibelius.

That conflict, however, is just one element in this fascinating score. The writing for woodwind ensemble is breathtaking: ten or 12 instruments simultaneously executing chromatic runs, like flames leaping from a furnace. And at the symphony's centre, this kind of writing is superimposed on the string tune, to create a superbly rich texture.

But perhaps the most extraordinary part is the symphony's coda. Passion dies away, and three solo violins engage in an overlapping, echo-dialogue, as if Monteverdi had been reborn in 1993. The symphony, like the man who wrote it, has an immaculately polished surface: a microscopic concern with detail. That only serves to enhance the intensity of the emotional world that it gradually reveals. It receives its British premiere at the Proms on August 27.

Notes on eight decades

1913: Witold Lutoslawski was born in Warsaw on January 25.

1918: His father was executed by the Russians near Moscow for Polish nationalist activities.

1932: Enters Warsaw Conservatoire. Throughout the 1930s he gains recognition in Poland as a composer.

1939: Abandoning plan to study in Paris, joins Polish Army. Captured by Germans, escapes, makes way back to Warsaw. Survives war playing piano duets in cafés with fellow composer Andrzej Panufnik. His brother executed in concentration camp. Much of his music destroyed when German razed Warsaw after 1944 Polish Uprising.

1949: First Symphony, planned secretly during the war, premiered and instantly banned for "formalism". Lutoslawski privately continues to experiment with avant-garde music, while producing more traditional "functional" music for public consumption, such as the immediately popular Concerto for Orchestra.

1955: Cultural thaw after Stalin's death allows an annual new music festival in Warsaw. Lutoslawski's "new style" heard for first time in works such as *Musique funèbre*.

1957: Delivers speech to Polish Composers Union denouncing socialist realism in the arts.

1964-8: A series of masterpieces — the String Quartet, Second Symphony and *Livre pour orchestre* — establish his international reputation. The series continues into the 1970s with the remarkable Cello Concerto.

1981: Aligns himself with Solidarity, and makes outspoken speech at Polish Congress of Culture, on "The Role of Truth in Art". Declared *persona non grata* by Soviet Union. Martial law imposed in Poland a few days later.

1983: Third Symphony premiered by Solti in Chicago and widely interpreted (though not by Lutoslawski) as a Beethoven-like call to freedom. Receives hundreds of performances round world, and fellow Poles award it the Solidarity Prize.

1989: Serves on committee of 100 intellectuals that supervised Poland's first democratic elections.

RADIO REVIEW: A moving and imaginative portrait of Shakespeare; and a glimpse of life with Napoleon

Bard brought to book

There has been a lot of discussion lately about what Shakespeare was really like; and David Pownall made an excellent contribution in his Sunday Play on Radio 3, **Dreams and Censorship**. It is the year 1610, and seven learned divines have just completed their translation of the Bible for King James. But Shakespeare, who is a trusted friend of the king's, has urged him not to allow the inclusion of the Book of Revelation. Is the great playwright just jealous of the translators' achievement? That is what they all think.

Anyway, the king (very well played in a razor-edged but dainty Scottish voice by Hugh Ross) comes to Oxford to see them. He is a splendid characterisation by Pownall — crafty, crusty, and yet thoughtful and open to ideas. He ticks off one of the divines for smoking — "No more devilish fuming while on sacred business" — and tells them that he will not have in his Bible a book that will give comfort to seditious madmen. The queen, who is rather a feminist, adds that in any case they must change "Whore of Babylon" to "Whoremaster of Babylon" — it is not fair on women.

Little by little we learn Shakespeare's real motives. What he sees looming is a new age of intolerance. For him, St John's dream on Patmos is God's dream of vengeance on men, and one that men will all too readily imbibe. "There will be a church where the theatre was, a block where the throne was."

Of course, as we know, he fails in his attempt to hold back the Puritan tide. Pownall's rich imagination gives a good, half-comic gloss to this. The divines have written a celebratory masque about St John that will be performed in Oxford that very evening — and the king wants to see it. They are terrified, because the St John in it (a powerful performance by Robert Stephens) is a really fiery denouncer of earthly thrones.

But to everyone's surprise the king loves the masque. He chortles at the painted animals ("The beasties were good!"), is moved to tears by the crucifixion of a Vestal Virgin (not knowing that it is his precocious son Charlie who is playing the part), and as for the theological argument in it, that is greatly to his taste. He tells Shakespeare "You could learn a lot from this piece, Willy," and lets the divines have their way over the Book of Revelation.

Only Shakespeare is sad and solemn at the end of Pownall's play. He writes *The Tempest* as his farewell to the theatre — and who does he find sitting on the stage on the first night by order of the king but the seven divines. It is like the last omen; and this brilliant, balanced, tolerant man, as Pownall portrays him (and Edward Petherbridge convincingly performs him), retires to Stratford and silence. Now, for England, what must come must come.

We leapt on 200 years in the last **Miles Kington Interview** (Radio 4, Tuesday), when the ghost of Empress Josephine (Jane Lapotaire) told him what life was like with Napoleon. There were some good, glancing jokes, such as Josephine's conviction that the British would really have liked Napoleon to be British, rather than having to put up with that "dusty old general", Wellington. But on the whole she was allowed to speak quite seriously and sympathetically, smarting still at the hostility all Napoleon's Corsican family showed her ("like Lady Diana"), or remembering the best times she had with Napoleon as their moments alone in Malmaison together. Kington has revealed an unfamiliar, teacherly side of himself in these "interviews". But don't go too far in that direction, Miles.

DERWENT MAY

ROCK: **David Sinclair** reviews a London concert by Stereo MCs, 'the first viable English rap act'

Shaking off the American accent


Rob Birch: a classless but distinctly English voice

Having upstaged the ailing Happy Mondays on their tour last year, Stereo MCs are now getting a taste of what it is like to be in the headline slot themselves. The group have been hot news since their third album, *Connected*, shot into the chart at No 2 last month, which may be why vocalist Rob Birch was so taken aback by the response to their show at the Town & Country. "Why are you so quiet?" he asked the audience, rather plaintively, towards the end.

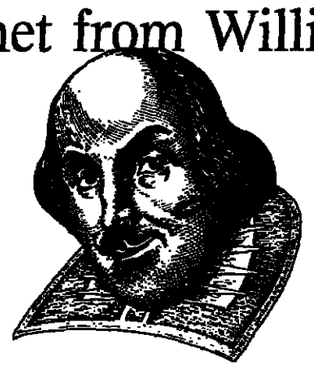
Stereo MCs are, in essence, the first viable English rap act. They claim a grand array of influences and, by implication, suggest a broad significance in what they do. But their trick has been relatively simple. Taking the beatbox-funk rhythms of the American rap model, but leaving out the violent imagery and bad language, they have added a hint of melody and given it a British dancefloor feel. Add the near classless but distinctly English speaking voice of Birch, and *voilà*: a chart- and club-friendly hybrid that picks up where the rave-influenced Manchester groups, such as Happy Mondays, tailed off.

Their show was lively enough to watch. The fair-haired and bearded Birch, dressed in one of those sleeveless, flapping jackets that are all the rage among a better class of window cleaner, jumped about the stage in a curiously anthropoid fashion. Nick Hallam, the bald DJ, remained static behind his turntables, while the three female backing vocalists paid as much attention to their shimmy and frug dance steps as they did to their singing; possibly more. The vast lighting gantries were deployed with retina-distressing aggression.

The only musical instrument on stage was Owen If's drum kit, and musically the emphasis was on his propulsive rhythmic thrust, bolstered by the ultra-heavy bass frequencies generated by Hallam's decks. At a level loud enough to set any fashionably flared trouser legs flapping, they barrelled their way through "Playing With Fire", "Step It Up", "Pressure" and several others from the *Connected* album, while the crowd bounced about contentedly on the packed dancefloor.

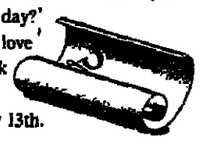
The relatively mute response of which Birch eventually complained may have been due, in part, to the indistinct presence of his voice in the mix. While the more obvious slogans cut through, most of his words were lost. Or it might simply reflect the fact that music like this is great to dance to but not a lot of good for anything else. Perhaps the crowd was simply too pooped to applaud.

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THE TIMES

Record odds favour England victory in World Cup qualifying tie at Wembley

Bonini leads San Marino's underdogs

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

TWENTY-four hours after Graham Taylor named his England squad to face San Marino in a World Cup qualifying tie at Wembley next Wednesday, the tiny republic yesterday named its party for the game. In doing so, they illustrated just how wide is the gulf between the sides.

After Taylor had welcomed the return of John Barnes from Liverpool and included both David Platt and Paul Gascoigne, with a combined worth to their Italian clubs of more than £11 million, San Marino included just two professionals in their 18-strong selection.

Massimo Bonini, the experienced midfield player once with Juventus and now with the Italian second division club, Bologna, and Marco Mazza, from AS Cerveteri in Italy's fourth division, are the only two players available to San Marino with professional experience.

In contrast, the goalkeeper, Pier Luigi Benedettini, who can expect a busy night, earns his living with his family's transport firm, while the squad also features shopkeepers, a student and a post-office worker.

The mountain-top republic has only 24,000 inhabitants and they began their campaign with a 10-0 defeat away to Norway. However, San Marino fared better in their latest outing, when they were set to take a point off Turkey until they conceded three goals in the last five minutes to lose 4-1.

Such is the difference between the countries, England were yesterday installed as the hottest favourites to win a game since regular betting on football matches began. The bookmakers, William Hill, quoted England at 33-1 on to beat San Marino, which means that if you put £33 on them in a betting shop, you would lose £2.40 after tax was deducted. The previous shortest odds were 1-25 laid on Italy to beat the United States in the 1990 World Cup finals — a match the Italians won 1-0. San Marino are quoted at 66-1 and William Hill are taking bets for England to score ten goals or more at odds of 5-1.

Taylor, meanwhile, yesterday turned his attentions to his under-21 squad, which plays San Marino Under-21 in a Uefa championship qualifying tie at Kenilworth Road on Tuesday night. With an experienced party selected for the senior match, the England manager said he would use the under-21 match to bring emerging players such as Rob Jones, of Liverpool, and Lee Sharpe, of Manchester United, along gradually.

"Jones is like Sharpe, and we have to be very careful," Taylor said. "We have to let them find and feel their way rather than burden them with so much expectancy."

If the Liverpool chairman, David Moores, was yesterday attempting to calm the controversy that has surrounded his club's disappointing season yesterday, he may have achieved almost the opposite. After underlining his support for the Liverpool manager, Graeme Souness, he described the club's position in the Premier League as "totally unacceptable".

"For the present, we have chosen to stay calm, support the manager and team, and do everything else we can to overcome the present difficulties," Moores said. "However, being halfway down the Premier League and out of three major cup competitions is totally unacceptable to Liverpool Football Club."

SAN MARINO SQUAD (v England at Wembley, February 17): P L Benedettini, S Muccioli; W Guerra, L Gobbi, L Bizzocchi, M Gennari, B Muccioli, M Bonini, M Mazza, F Francini, P Manzaroli, I Matteoni, L Zanotti, C Cani, D D Valle, P Mazza, V Pasolini, N Baccocchi.

ENGLAND UNDER-21 SQUAD (v San Marino Under-21 at Luton, February 16): I Walker (Tottenham Hotspur), R Hoult (Leicester City); M Oakes (Aston Villa), R Jones (Liverpool), D Jackson (Everton), A Wright (Blackburn Rovers), B Small (Aston Villa), R Hall (Southampton), A Awford (Portsmouth), U Ehiogu (Aston Villa), S Howey (Newcastle United), G Fitzroft (Manchester City), J Redknapp (Liverpool), L Clark (Newcastle United), S Froggatt (Aston Villa), D Sutch (Norwich City), E Newton (Chelsea), S McManaman (Liverpool), D Anderton (Tottenham Hotspur), C Sutton (Norwich City), M Sheron (Manchester City), M Stewart (Bristol Rovers).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Fiery Waqar sparks collapse by S Africa

WAQAR Younis showed why he is widely regarded as cricket's best fast bowler by destroying South Africa's batting in the opening game of a triangular tournament in Durban yesterday. He took five for 25 as the South Africans collapsed to a ten-run defeat.

Chasing 208 for six, South Africa looked to be firmly in control at 159 for two with ten overs left. But then Waqar bowled Andrew Hudson, the opening batsman, for 93 and panic set in among the South Africans. Jonty Rhodes, Brian McMillan and Dave Richardson were run out attempting suicidal runs.

South Africa had put Pakistan in on a damp pitch, and although Allan Donald dismissed Saeed Anwar in the first over, Asif Mujtaba (49 not out) and Inzamam-ul-Haq (47) helped them recover to 208 for six in their 50 overs.

Bowe sets title terms

BOXING: Riddick Bowe, the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation heavyweight champion, has at last decided to meet Lennox Lewis, Britain's World Boxing Council (WBC) title-holder, in his next contest, according to reports in New York (Srikumar Sen writes). However, there appears to be a catch: Bowe wants Lewis to throw the WBC belt away, and promises to do the same with his two titles. It is unlikely that Lewis will agree to the terms as he values his world title too highly.

Looking down under

SWIMMING: Don Talbot, the coach who took Australia to their best Olympic results for 20 years at Barcelona, has offered his services to Britain as national performance director — if the price is right (Craig Lord writes). Creating the post was recommended in the Heatly report into Britain's poor performance at Barcelona and accepted in principle by the national federation. Talbot, 59, who is in Europe for the final rounds of the World Cup, said a package of £75,000 a year would lure him to Britain.

Wembley fitness trial

BADMINTON: Although Jo Muggeridge, the England No. 1, has been left out of the list of 20 players selected for the world championships, she might still be selected. "She had a serious attack of influenza while she was in the Far East recently and then had bronchial trouble," Ciro Ciniglio, the team manager, said. "She should be fit for the All-England championships, and as the deadline for entries for the world championships is not until after Wembley, I want to see her play before coming to any decision."

Hide seeks British title



BOXING: Herbie Hide, right, will meet Michael Murray for the vacant British heavyweight title at the Goresbrook Leisure Centre, Dagenham, on February 27. The bout, recommended by the championship committee of the British Boxing Board of Control, has to be confirmed at the board's meeting today. On the undercard, Dennis Andries makes his first appearance as a heavyweight.

Wigan excel in depth

RUGBY LEAGUE: Wigan's pre-eminence, not only at senior but youth level, is reflected in the choice of seven players among a 19-strong Great Britain Academy under-18 squad announced yesterday to face France at Wigan next Tuesday. Jason Robinson, who will make his Great Britain under-21 debut against France the following night at Rochdale, is the only youth team member to have become established in the first team at Wigan, but Andrew Farrell, appointed Academy captain, heads a wealth of talent at Central Park.

Cork's appeals fail to bring desired results

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT IN LAUNCESTON

DOMINIC Cork might have guessed this would not be his match, as soon as Ted Dexter hinted that he might be the post-Botham all-rounder for whom England had waited so long. Under the gaze of the England committee chairman, the chosen man has had a nightmare. One run with the bat, two wicketless spells with the ball and, injury heaped on insult, a blow on the chin from a wicked bounce as he dived to make a stop.

However, despite Cork's suffering in England A's fixture with Tasmania, there is plenty of support for Dexter's stated view of his talent. "We have waited a long time for a true third seamer who can bat," Dexter said on Monday. "Cork has the potential."

The positive style of his batting was confirmed in a rapid half-century during the limited-overs game on Sunday. Bothamesque? Possibly, but do not mention the comparison in Cork's earshot: he is determinedly his own man.

Yesterday came demonstration of the bowling that will remain his stronger suit. A smooth, high action and the precious ability to swing the ball either way are the trademarks and he will many times display them less impressively than here and take five wickets.

On a day cut in half by rain, however, Cork failed to take a single wicket. Indeed, the touring side could not beg or borrow a wicket from anywhere. Tasmania's prolific openers, Dene Hills and Nick Courtney, putting on an unbroken 159 in reply to the overnight declaration at 420 for nine.

Cork had, conservatively, ten leg-before appeals rejected, of which at least half looked convincing. He bowled an admirable line and his increasingly agitated reaction showed he did not quite see eye to eye with the reluctant umpire, Bernard Knight.

His first eight overs had yielded only ten runs when he sank theatrically to the ground after Knight had denied him again. Hills promptly hit three consecutive fours and Cork might have wondered what he had done to offend the fates when he ended up nursing a sore jaw in the next over.

Cork's bowling was matched in quality, if not in volume, by that of Mark Ilott, but, on paper at least, the day belonged to a batting pair with a fast growing reputation at the head of an order which may soon be the envy of much of Australia.

☐ A Test and County Cricket Board spokesman yesterday described as "premature" reports that a third umpire could be used in this summer's Tests against Australia.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND A XI: First innings: 420 for 9 dec (N H Lash 141, G P Thorpe 96, C Gartham 4-110).

TASMANIA: First innings

D Hills not out	71
N Courtney not out	73
Extras (b 1, lb 4, nb 4)	9
Total (no wkt)	159

J Cox, R Fleming, *R Tucker, D Buckingham, *M Atkinson, C Matthews, T Cooley, D Cassidy and P McPhee to bat.

BOWLING: Mullins 9-2-36-0, Ilott 16-5-37-0, Cork 15-5-18-0, Capel 7.3-0-30-0, Boiling 7-2-13-0.

Umpires: S Donaldson and B Knight.



All-rounder in waiting: Cork, who is highly rated by the England committee chairman, is struggling to make an impression against Tasmania

SNOOKER

Robidoux routed as Wilkinson sweeps on

BY PHIL YATES

GARY Wilkinson, who has developed into something of an invitation tournament specialist, was in excellent form during a 5-0 victory over Alain Robidoux in the second round of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre yesterday.

Wilkinson, the world No. 8, has had a disappointing season in ranking tournaments and fallen to sixteenth in the provisional standings. When ranking points are not at stake, he has prospered, notably in the Regal Scottish Masters in September, when he reached the final with wins over Stephen Hendry and Steve Davis.

Wilkingon displayed a fluency seen rarely since his victory in the World Matchplay in December 1991, in a virtually flawless display. He will meet Hendry, the defending champion, or Ken Doherty in the quarter-finals.

Despite an early miscue in the first frame which resulted in a bruised tip, Wilkinson compiled a clearance of 97. He continued to strike the cue ball accurately, amassing breaks of 44, 100 and 91 in the next three frames to take a 4-0 lead.

Trailing 43-30 in the fifth frame, Robidoux, the French-Canadian based in Stirling, put Wilkinson in trouble with a shrewd safety shot, but could only watch as Wilkinson fluked a red and took the game with a break of 33.

RESULT: Second round: G Wilkinson (Eng) bt A Robidoux (Can) 5-0.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

Coca-Cola Cup
Semi-final, first leg
Blackburn v Sheffield Wednesday (all ticket, 8.0)

Premier League
Arsenal v Wimbledon (7.45)
Chelsea v Liverpool (7.45)
Crystal Palace v Aston Villa (8.0)
Everton v Tottenham
Southampton v Norwich
POSTPONED: Notts Forest v Blackburn

Barclays League
First division
Derby v Barnsley (7.45)
Southend v Bristol City (7.45)

GM Vauxhall Conference
Gateshead v Stafford

Tennents Scottish Cup
Fourth round replays
Hibernian v Cowdenbeath
St Johnstone v Kilmarnock (8.0)

Scottish League
FIRST DIVISION: Postponed: Clydebank v Kilmarnock, Cowdenbeath v Dumbarton.

Second division
Arbroath v Stenhousemuir
East Stirling v Berwick

EUROPEAN SUPER CUP: First leg: Werder Bremen v Barcelona.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury v Dulwich, Grays v Bromley. League Cup: Molesey v Tooting and Mitcham.

KONICA LEAGUE CUP: Preliminary round: Cwmbran v Abergavenny, Llanelli v Afan Lido, Mold v Flint Town; Caersws v Bangor.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Manchester United v Leeds, Notts County v Sheffield United, Sunderland v Newcastle (7.0). Second division: Blackpool v Bradford (7.0), Burnley v Everton (7.15), Grimsby v Wigan (7.0), Huddersfield v Port Vale, Middlesbrough v York (7.0), Scunthorpe v Preston (7.0), Oldham v Hull (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Fulham v Charlton (2.0), Swindon v Portsmouth (2.0), Tottenham v QPR (2.0). Second division: Torquay v Cardiff, Yeovil v Birmingham (7.45). League Cup: Exeter v Bournemouth (7.0).

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Winsford v Colwyn Bay.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS CUP: Preliminary round: Horsham v Aldershot Town, Royston v Saffron Walden.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: Tennents Floodlit Trophy: Atherton LR v Ellesmere Port, Bradford Park Avenue v Chadderton.

RUGBY UNION

Representative match
Oxford University v The Army (3.0)

Tour match
Moseley v Club Universitario D (7.30)

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stones Bitter Championship
Third division
Workington v Barrow

OTHER SPORT

BOXING: Commonwealth bantamweight title Johnny Armour (Chatham, holder) v Morgan Mphunda (Zam) (Lewisham Theatre).

SNOOKER: Benson and Hedges Masters (Wembley Conference Centre).

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)		Conditions		Weather	Temp °C	Last snow
	L	U	Piste	Runs to resort			
FRANCE							
Avoriaz	30	140	good	slick	sunny	10	28/1
(Most lifts and links open. Best snow on upper)							
Courchevel	75	175	good	spring	sunny	4	28/1
(Best snow above 1,900m and at La Saulire)							
Les Arcs	40	300	good	spring	sunny	8	27/1
(Best above 1,700m. 90% of area open, and busy)							
Serre Chevalier	40	140	hard	slick	overcast	10	8/2
(Links open, but care required on icy patches)							
ITALY							
Cervinia	65	250	good	good	bright	5	27/1
(Good snow. Links to Zermatt and Valtournenche open)							
Courmayeur	30	150	hard	patchy	fine	12	27/1
(Extensive cover above 2,000m. Des Eves and Des Luna closed)							
Sestriere	30	60	good	goodlight snow		0	9/2
(Conditions improving with recent light snowfall)							
Selva	10	50	compact	hard	sunny	8	9/12
(Sella Ronda links open. Best on upper slopes)							
SWITZERLAND							
Arosa	60	70	good	spring	sunny	6	29/1
(More than 90% of area open. Good conditions)							
Davos	40	180	good	spring	sunny	2	28/1
(Best conditions on upper slopes. Worn on lower)							
Grindelwald	30	65	hard	limited	sunny	4	29/1
(Best conditions above mid-station)							
Zermatt	50	160	compact	hard	cloudy	3	28/1
(Most lifts, pistes and links open. Good skiing)							
AUSTRIA							
Ischgl	20	140	hard	spring	sunny	3	28/1
(All lifts and pistes open)							
Kitzbühel	5	75	good	worn	sunny	1	29/1
(Skiing above mid-station recommended)							
Neusuff	10	50	good	closed	sunny	5	29/1
(Most lifts open. Best snow above mid-station)							

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

THE TIMES RISING STARS

5 PAIRS OF TICKETS FOR TOWCESTER TO BE WON.

The first event in *The Times* Hunter Chase race series takes place on February 16 at Towcester. Five lucky Times readers and partners are invited to join us on the day. The first five people to phone 071-704 9941 will enjoy a day as a guest of *The Times*. Enjoy a buffet lunch, afternoon tea and the chance to meet *The Times* expert on the series, Brian Beel. Phone now.

FOR THE RECORD

FOOTBALL

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Postponed: VS Rugby v Dover.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Group A: Bragantino 2, Guarani 0; Ituano 1, Uniao Sao Joao 3, Marilia 2, Mogi Mirim 0; Ponte Preta 4, Juventus 1; Rio Branco 2, Noroeste 0; Santos 1, Palmeiras 3; Sao Paulo 3, Corinthians 0. Group B: Catanduvense 1, Olimpia 1; Ferroviaria 0, Sao Caetano 0; Internacional-Limeira 1, Aracatuba 2; Novorizontino 2, Saocarlense 2; Santo Andre 1, Taquaritinga 2, XV de Jau 3, Sao Jose 0.

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Anderlecht 3, FC Liege 0; Genk 0, Beveren 2; Standard Liege 3, Lommel 1; Lierse 3, Lokaren 0; Ghent 1, Mechelen 1; Waregem 4, Cercle Bruges 2; Boom 2, Charleroi 0; Eleeren 3, Molenbeek 0; Club Bruges 1, Antwerp 0. Leading positions: 1, Anderlecht, played 21, 36 points; 2, Standard Liege, 22, 32; 3, Waregem, 22, 29.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Maritimo 1 Beira Mar 0, Pacos Ferreira 1, Porto 2, Belenenses 1, Chaves 0; Tirsense 1, Boavista 1, Estoril 1, Guimaraes 0; Espinho 1, Gil Vicente 0, Braga 0, Farense 1; Famalicao 1, Sporting 2; Salgueiros 0, Benfica 3. Leading positions (after 20 matches): 1, FC Porto, 33 points, 2, Benfica, 29; 3, Sporting Lisbon, 27.

Late results on Monday

PREMIER LEAGUE: Leeds United 0, Manchester United 0.

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Dagenham and Redbridge 4, Slough 4.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: ESFA Dismik Under-16 Cup: Second round: Beaucharnps 1, Bexleyheath 5. Other matches: Bedford 5, Rugby 0, Colfe's 0, UCS 2; Oakham 1, Bedford 4. Adidas under-18 Trophy: Regional semi-final: Hampshire 1, Somerset 2. Adidas under-15 Trophy: Merseyside 6, Cheshire 1.

PONTINS LEAGUE: First division: Liverpool 1, Barnsley 3. Second division: Coventry 4, Preston 1.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester 0, Moor Green 2. Postponed: Hednesford v Gloucester.

BASS IRISH CUP: Fifth-round replay: Crusaders 0, Larne 1.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: Full members cup: Preliminary round: Sutton Utd 3, Lewes 1.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: First division: Rossendale Utd 1, Ashton Utd 7.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Second division: Ruislip Manor 1, Banstead 1.

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Chelsea 1, Oxford Utd 1; Crystal Palace 3, Brighton 0; Millwall 2, Wimbledon 1, Queens Park Rangers 0, Swindon 1.

VAUXHALL FA TROPHY: Second round second replay: Gloucester 0, Runcorn 0 (aet).

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York Knicks 120, Philadelphia 76ers 115; Washington Bullets 106, Houston Rockets 100; Utah Jazz 108, Orlando Magic 98; Los Angeles Lakers 108, Dallas Mavericks 100.

BIATHLON

BOROVETZ, Bulgaria: World Championships: Women's 15km team event: 1, France, 53min 58.1sec; 2, Belarus, 54:00.5; 3, Poland, 55:30.4. Men's 20km team event: 1, Germany, 54min 42.3sec; 2, Russia, 55.16.3; 3, France, 55.44.8.

BOWLS

COUNTY ANTRIM: Irish national indoor championships: Singles: Semi-finals: N Booth (County Antrim) bt D Hamilton (Belfast), 21-20, I McClure (Provincial Towns) bt A McMullan (Belfast), 21-20. Final: Booth bt McClure, 21-17. Under-25: Singles: Semi-finals: I Stewart (County Antrim) bt N Graham (Belfast), 21-11; I McClure (Provincial Towns) bt P Daly (Belfast), 2.-8. Final: Booth bt McClure 21-17. Pairs: Semi-finals: I Stewart and S Moran (County Antrim) bt J Smyth and J Irwin (Provincial Towns), 21-12; R McCutcheon and C Craig (Belfast) bt S Moore and A Montgomery (Belfast), 18-17. Final: Stewart and Moran bt McCutcheon and Craig, 19-18. Triples: Semi-finals: Belfast (A McMullan) bt Belfast (S Adamson), 17-13; County Antrim (S Allen) bt Provincial Towns (T Milliken), 17-14. Final: Belfast (McMullan) bt County Antrim (Allen), 20-12. Fours: Semi-finals: County Antrim (D Livingstone) bt Belfast (G Hamilton), 20-16. Provincial Towns (G McCloy) bt Belfast (A Montgomery), 29-7. Final: County Antrim (Livingstone) bt Provincial Towns (McCloy), 24-23.

CRICKET

RED STRIPE CUP: Fourth day: Kingston: Barbados 455-9 dec; Jamaica 267-9 (J Dujon 107). Match drawn. Port of Spain: Leeward Islands 285 and 237-8 dec; Trinidad and Tobago 300 and 232 (A Gray 69, W Phillip 5-81). Leeward Islands won by 90 runs.

DURBAN: One-day triangular series: Pakistan 208-6 (50 overs), South Africa 198 (50 overs). Pakistan won by 10 runs.

CYCLING

TOUR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN: Overall positions (after two stages): 1, L Brochard (Fr), 1hr 50min 03sec; 2, F Jaker (Fr), six seconds behind; 3, L Desbiens (Fr), 4, G Delion (Fr), 5, H Trumheller (Ger); 6, J-C Robin (Fr) all same time.

GOLF

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, N Faldo (GB), 24.22pts; 2, F Couples (US), 16.33; 3, I Woosnam (GB), 12.96; 4, J M Olazabal (Sp), 12.67; 5, G Norman (Aus), 12.75; 6, B Langer (Ger), 12.57; 7, N Price (Zim), 12.24; 8, D Love (US), 12.01; 9, J Cook (US), 10.60; 10, T Kite (US), 10.41.

HOCKEY

SCHOOLS MATCH: Cambridgeshire U18 Cup: Final: The Leys 1, The Perse 0.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE (NHL): New Jersey Devils 5, New York Rangers 4; Ottawa Senators 4, Buffalo Sabres 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, Boston Bruins 0; St Louis Blues 3, Hartford Whalers 1.

MOTOR RALLYING

GALWAY INTERNATIONAL RALLY (Ireland): 1, A McHale (Toyota Celica), 2hr 56min 14sec; 2, K McKinstry (Subaru Legacy), 2.56.09; 3, B Fisher (Subaru Legacy), 3.01.00.

MERCURY SNOWMAN RALLY (Scotland): 1, M Grierson (MG Metro 6R4), 48mm 35sec; 2, R Munro (Sierra Cosworth), 49.10, 3, J Gray (Sierra Cosworth), 50.05.

PACEMAKER RALLY (South Wales): 1, A Sheppard (Escort), 9min; 2, J Butt (Vauxhall Nova), 11; 3, P Turner (Peugeot 205), 13.

RACKETS

NEW YORK: US amateur championship (British unless stated): Singles: Semi-finals: W Boone bt W Bridgwe, 15-6, 15-4, 15-7; J Prenn bt W Surtees, 15-8, 10-15, 15-7, 15-6. Final: Boone bt Prenn, 13-16, 15-6, 15-9, 6-15, 15-11. Doubles: Final: E Ulmann (US) and W Boone bt J Prenn and W Surtees, 17-14, 15-12, 5-15, 18-16.

LACOSTE OPEN SINGLES: First round: N Smith bt O Bridgeman, 15-3, 15-3, 15-4; N Pendrigh bt O Watkins, 15-0, 10-15, 15-11, 15-5. J Spurling bt A Orchard, 15-1, 15-9, 15-4; P Brake bt P Rosser, 15-8, 15-1; D Johnson bt R Trimble, 17-16, 15-2, 15-10; G Barker bt D Barrett, 15-8, 15-0, 15-5; M Hue-Williams bt H Davis, 9-15, 6-15, 15-11, 15-9, 15-3; W Boone bt K Walker, 15-10, 15-3, 15-5; T Cockroft bt A Lyons, 15-8, 15-4, 15-1; D Makey bt R Mason, 15-4, 15-8, 9-15, 15-9; M Henman bt R Tolchard, 15-7, 15-9, 15-12; S Hazell bt J Beaumont, 15-2, 15-6, 15-3; S Shenkman bt K Crook, 15-3, 15-2, 15-10. Second round: S Hazell bt M Henman, 15-5, 15-3, 15-9; Brake bt Johnson, 15-11, 15-9, 15-4; Hue-Williams bt Barker, 17-14, 15-4; Cockroft bt A Smith-Bingham, 15-10, 15-1, 15-7.

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Newbridge 3, Newport 20.

SHOOTING

UXBRIDGE: Women's Inter-services smallbore rifle championships: ATS Inter-services Trophy: 1, Army, 1,685pts; 2, RAF, 1,678; 3, Royal Navy, 1,668.

SKIING

MORIOKA, Japan: World championships: Giant slalom: First leg: Men: 1, K A Aamodt (Nor), 1min 07.69sec; 2, R Salzgeber (Austria), 1.08.14; 3, J Wallner (Swe), 1.09.18; 4, M Waasmeier (Ger), 1.09.45; 5, M Girardelli (Lux), 1.09.54; 6, O C Furuseth (Nor), 1.09.63. Women: Combined: 1, K Buder (Aus), 1min 27.66sec; 2, J Parcaen (US), 1.27.87; 3, E Eder (Aus), 1.28.65; 4, K Andersson (Swe), 1.28.69; 5, M Gallizio (It), 1.28.94; 6, T Rodling (Swe), 1.29.12. British: equal 17, E Camck-Anderson, 1.30.97; 24, C de Pourtales, 1.32.21.

SNOOKER

WEMBLEY: Benson and Hedges Masters: First round: K Doherty (Ire) bt D Morgan (Wales), 5-3. Second round: A McManus (Scot) bt N Foulds (Eng), 5-1; J Wattana (Thai) beat M Clark (Eng), 5-2.

SQUASH

PIMM'S PREMIER LEAGUE: Courtshop Surbiton 1, Rackets Club 3, Lingfield 1, Cannons Club 3; WF Village Manchester 0, Leatles Wizards 4. (R Norman lost to D Webb 5-9, 1-9, 9-10; D Meddings beat P Johnson 9-4, 9-2, 9-2; J Ransome lost to G Wilson 9-6, 1-9, 1-9, 1-9; N Frankland lost to R Graham 9-3, 8-9, 9-7, 9-10, 0-9). Leading league positions: 1, Leatles Wizards, 41pts, 2, Lambs Club, 35; 3, Cannons Club, 34; 4, Rackets Club, 23; 5, Courtshop Surbiton, 20; 6, Lingfield, 17; 7, WF Village Manchester, 11.

LAMBS CLUB, London: Jesters tournament: Final: S Langdon beat N Brown, 9-4, 9-2, 9-7. Veterans: J Parrott beat T Wilkinson 7-9, 9-7, 9-3, 6-9, 9-1. Vintage: P Kirton beat J Cox, 9-3, 9-7, 9-4. Venerables: J Cox beat R Martin, 9-6, 3-9, 9-3, 9-3.

TENNIS

MILAN: Men's indoor tournament: First round: O Camporese (It) bt N Kulti (Swe), 4-6, 7-6, 7-6; M Larsson (Swe) bt A Thoms (Ger), 6-3, 6-3; S Bruguera (Sp) bt R Agenor (Haiti), 6-7, 7-5, 6-3.

CHICAGO: Women's tournament: First round: K Po (US) bt A Carlsson (Swe), 6-0, 6-3; T Whitlinger (US) bt A Frazier (US), 6-3, 1-6, 6-1; A Keller (US) bt M Bollegraf (Holl), 6-3, 7-6; I Majoli (Croatia) bt S McCarthy (US), 4-6, 6-2, 6-0; M Werdel (US) bt S Amiach (Fr), 6-7, 6-4, 6-1; B Schultz (Holl) bt S Stafford (US), 6-4, 6-4; C Garrison-Jackson (US) bt L Raymond (US), 6-2, 6-4.

MEMPHIS: Men's tournament: First round: R Reneberg (US) bt M Zoecke (Ger), 6-3, 7-6; J Arias (US) bt B Devening (US), 7-6, 6-4; C Adams (US) bt B Shelton (US), 6-4, 2-6, 7-5; T Enqvist (Swe) bt C Saceanu (Ger), 6-3, 6-3; T Wilskari (US) bt J Morgan (Aus), 6-4, 6-4; R Fromberg (Aus) bt T Ho (US), 5-7, 6-2, 6-4; T Martin (US) bt J Palmer (US), 6-4, 6-4; L Prades (Fr) bt K Evans (US), 6-7, 7-6, 6-3; D Randall (US) bt D Rostagno (US), 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; S Youl (Aus) bt C Allgardh (Swe), 6-7, 6-2, 6-2.

SUNDERLAND: LTA women's satellite tournament: First round: Vildova (Cz Rep) bt J Salmon (GB), 6-0, 2-6, 6-4; T Obziler (Isr) bt E Norlie (Nam), 2-6, 6-4, 6-3; G Cooregel (Holl) bt J Dubcova (Cz Rep), 7-6, 7-5; L Zaltz (Isr) bt M-C Garcia (Sp), 6-4, 6-4; S Parhomenko (Russ) bt K Nugent (Ire), 6-4, 6-2; S Bentley (GB) bt A Moll (Pol), 6-1, 6-1; K Cross (GB) bt C Billingham (GB), 2-6, 7-5, 6-2; V Humphreys-Davies (GB) bt J Phillip (GB), 6-4, 6-3; L Jaits (GB) bt C Hunt (GB), 6-2, 6-4; A Smith (GB) bt P Rasdova (Cz Rep), 7-5, 6-3; A Sidot (Fr) bt J Kamp (Holl) 6-1, 6-0; M Bernard (Can) bt S Tse (GB), 6-3, 6-2.

AMAGASAKI, Japan: Asian Open women's tournament: First round: A Sugiyama (Japan) bt K Nagatsuka (Japan), 6-2, 6-4; Wang Shi-ting (Taiwan) bt K Godridge (Aus), 6-0, 7-5; N Sawamatsu (Japan) bt T Takagi (Japan), 6-1, 7-5; M Miyauchi (Japan) bt Fang Li (China), 6-2, 6-4; R McQuillan (Aus) bt M Jaggard-Lai (Aus), 6-3, 6-4; P Paradis-Mangon (Fr) bt Y Kamo (Japan), 2-6, 6-2, 6-2; M Maleeva (Bul) bt D Jones (Aus), 6-0, 6-0; E Smylie (Aus) bt M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz), 6-2, 6-4.

ATP RANKINGS: 1, J Couner (US) 3,558pts; 2, P Sampras (US), 3,399; 3, S Edberg (Swe), 3,271; 4, B Becker (Ger), 2,751; 5, G Ivanisevic (Cro), 2,610; 6, P Korda (Cz), 2,254; 7, M Chang (US), 2,226; 8, A Agassi (US), 2,006; 9, T Lendl (US), 1,887; 10, G Forget (Fr), 1,692. WTA: 1, M Seles, 302.96pts; 2, S Graf (Ger), 280.79; 3, M Navratilova (US), 188.98; 4, A Sanchez Vicario (Sp), 188.37; 5, G Sabatini (Arg), 182.91; 6, J Capriati (US), 131.91; 7, M J Fernandez (US), 110.29; 8, C Martinez (Sp), 106.03; 9, J Novotna (Cz) 84.44; 10, M Maleeva-Fragniere (Switz), 75.38.

YACHTING

McCRAE YC, Australia: Contender class world championship, Sixth race: 1, P Randall (Aus), 2, B Watson (Aus), 3, G Soon (GB); 4, C Burrough (GB), 5, S Grimes (Aus); 6, D Nicholson (Aus), 7, S Dubbin (Aus). Overall (with one race to sail): 1, Watson, 12; 2, Burrough, 31.7; 3, Grimes, 37.7; 4, Scott, 42.4; 5, Randall, 44.7; 6, A Bonezzi (It), 50.7; 7, Keag, 70.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 36

SOLENOGLYPH
(c) A venomous snake belonging to a group characterised by extra venom glands and grooved fangs which can be retracted, from the Greek *solēn* a channel or pipe + *glyphē* carving: "With the vipers, pit vipers and rattlesnakes, we come to the Solenoglyphous forms. These are the so-called folding-fang snakes." "The vipers have the most specialised tooth-form, a longitudinal canal that functions as a poison syringe. This condition is called solenoglyph."

KEKAYI
(c) An important Japanese timber-tree, *Zelkova serrata*, or its pale, elm-like wood, from the Japanese: "While there is some resemblance to the kekayi of Japan, there is an entire absence of that beautiful sheen or lustre which the Japanese wood possesses in a high degree." "Kekayi, tall trees, with gray-brown smooth bark."

DAMBO
(a) A grassy clearing, from the Mang'anja *dambo* treeless grass-covered plain, open glade in the bush: "Large open patches, or dambos, covered with fresh green grass and well-watered." "Crossing those dambos in the fierce heat of the day."

PRZEWALSKI
(c) A wild horse, *Equus przewalskii*, the eponym of N. M. Przewalski, the Russian explorer (1839-1888), collected by him in 1876 in Central Asia, its native land, and named after him by I. S. Poliakov in 1881: "The Przewalski, whose primitive characteristics include a hog mane and mealy muzzle, is the only true horse now living in a wild state in the Gobi Desert, where it is almost extinct."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Solution: white forced checkmate with 1 Rxh7+! Kxh7 2 Qh5+ Kg7 3 Bh6+ and if 3 ... Kh7 or 3 ... Kh8, 4 Bf8 is mate, while 3 ... Kf6 runs into 4 Qf5 mate.

هكذا من الأصل

Jockey Club gives green light to another Sunday

By Phil McLennan

THE Jockey Club yesterday gave the authority for a third Sunday meeting to be staged later this year.

Following last year's successful fixtures at Doncaster and Cheltenham, racing's ruling body decided last month to put further Sunday meetings on hold to await political developments.

However, with the Sunday trading bill now due to come before parliament in November and Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, making encouraging comments to the all-party racing committee last week about changing the Sunday betting laws, the Jockey Club is keen to sustain its support for fully-fledged Sunday racing.

Precise details of the third Sunday meeting have yet to be decided other than that it will be in the second half of the year. Each of Britain's 59 racecourses will be asked if they are interested in staging the meeting but the privilege is likely to go to a high-profile track.

"We don't want to rule out any courses but the meeting must be seen to be effective." David Pipe, spokesman for the Jockey Club, said yesterday. "It has got to register with parliament so we're either looking at one of the top courses or a smaller track that will attract and can handle a big attendance."

While a list of the courses which applied to stage Sunday racing last year was never released, Pipe said yesterday that there were as many as 15 applicants for the two meetings.

"Two or three of the originals dropped out and we were left with a dozen to choose from," Pipe added. "We asked each interested course for a detailed proposal of every aspect of the day.

"The autumn course [Cheltenham] more or less chose itself but the summer choice was more difficult. They [Doncaster] were in the ideal situation, had a strong management and were quick to organise sponsorship. Having said that, they were not alone."

Doncaster and Cheltenham will not be precluded from applying again, and among the other top courses thought to have been in the running last year were Newmarket and Goodwood.

Nick Lees, clerk of the course at Newmarket, was yesterday considering whether or not to reapply.

"We believed we had a very strong case last year and thought we were odds-on at one stage," he said. "A lot of work can come to nothing if you don't get the decision."

The stewards of the Jockey Club are hoping to consider the list of applicants at their meeting of March 8.

Although there is no Sunday race meeting planned for the first six months of the year, supporters of the Sunday racing movement have an early chance to make their voice heard at the first Sunday point-to-point at Ashorne on April 25.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: RIVER ISLAND
(1.30 Ascot)

Next best: Cache Fleur
(3.05 Ascot)

MARTIN LYNCH



Hong Kong bound: Dettori plans his final British season before leaving in September

Dettori returns to prepare for role as freelance

By Our Racing Staff

FRANKIE Dettori was back riding work in Newmarket yesterday for the first time since he announced his decision to part company with Luca Cumani and take up a contract in Hong Kong in the autumn.

"It's good to be back and I'm looking forward to the start of the turf season, especially to renewing my partnership with Drum Taps," the Italian-born jockey said.

Dettori, a former champion apprentice, will be working as a freelance this summer and is then hoping to get the go-ahead to transfer to Hong Kong in September.

He added: "I expect to be riding for Ron Boss, Julie Cecil, Lord Huntingdon, David Loder and all those people who have supported me in the past. I'm hoping to be back on the all-weather next week."

Dettori's first significant booking on the turf is Linpac West for Bill Elsey in the William Hill Lincoln at Doncaster on March 27, and he is reluctant to think beyond that at present.

He explained: "There's no point in getting carried away just yet as I haven't even been granted a licence to ride in Hong Kong at the moment. I shall be making a statement as soon as I know the details."

The 22-year-old rider's long-range plans are currently in the hands of the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club, which has control over licensing matters.

However, Dettori has already reached a verbal agreement with trainer Gary Ng to ride his horses for two seasons starting in September and his move is expected to get the rubber-stamp in the next few weeks.

Cumani, with whom Dettori enjoyed a highly successful eight-year association, is still considering his options regarding riding plans for 1993.

The trainer said: "I am in discussion with my owners but will have nothing concrete to add on the subject until I have spoken to all of them."

Ray Cochrane, who left Cumani in 1990 to ride for Guy Harwood, is thought to be among the front-runners for the Bedford House job.

ASCOT

THUNDERER

1.30 Be My Habitat. 2.00 Wonder Man. 2.30 Sweet Glow. 3.05 Very Very Ordinary. 3.35 Dakyns Boy. 4.05 SENDAI (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.30 SWEET GLOW.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

1.30 FERNBANK NOVICES HURDLE (£4,308: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

101 4 BOOTH'S BOUQUET 16 (Booth Flowers) Miss B Sanders 5-11-4 M Richards —
102 1/1/2-15 IRISH BAY 38 (D,F,G,S) (R Shaw) N Henderson 7-11-4 R Dunwoody 85
103 14P2 LEOTARD 19 (D,G) (C Heale) O Sherwood 8-11-4 J Osborne 88
104 053 OVER THE POLE 19 (Pell-mell Partners) J Gifford 8-11-4 E Murphy 72
105 314156 REGAL ROMPER 11 (D,G) (Mrs S Smith) Mrs S Smith 5-11-4 L Wyer 82
106 4-4101 RIVER ISLAND 13 (D,S) (W Stott) J Old 5-11-4 C Llewellyn [top]
107 1 TOP SCALE 146F (F) (Mrs D Classen-Broeton) K Bailey 7-11-4 M A Fitzgerald 84
108 1451PP BE MY HABITAT 4 (CD,S) (Miss L Siddall) Miss L Siddall 4-10-11 P Scudamore 97
109 114P BOLD BOSS 11 (D,G,S) (J Robson) G Moore 4-10-8 C Grant 96

BETTING: 9-4 Irish Bay, 3-1 Leotard, 7-2 Bold Boss, 11-2 River Island, 8-1 Over The Pole, 10-1 Be My Habitat, 16-1 Booth's Bouquet, 20-1 Top Scale, 25-1 Regal Romper.

1992: SONG OF SIXPENCE 8-11-7 J Frost (1-5 fav) I Balding 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

BOOTH'S BOUQUET 37½l 4th of 7 to Coonawara in Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy) novice hurdle. IRISH BAY beat Grand Hawk 10l in 8-runner Towcester (2m, soft) novice hurdle in December. LEOTARD ¾l 2nd of 12 to Coraco in Kempton (2m, soft) novice hurdle. OVER THE POLE 14l 3rd of 12 to Peacemaker in Kempton (2m, good to soft) novice hurdle. REGAL ROMPER beat Hibeal 8l in 10-runner Redcar (2m, good) novice handicap hurdle in November. RIVER ISLAND beat Staarid 1l in 21-runner Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft) novice hurdle. TOP SCALE beat Banana Cuitinks 2½l in 9-runner Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm) conditional jockeys' novice hurdle in August. BE MY HABITAT beat Badastan 12l in 4-runner novice hurdle here (2m 4f, heavy). BOLD BOSS beat Palacegate King 1½l in 18-runner Newcastle (2m 110yd, heavy) novice hurdle.
Selection: BOLD BOSS

2.00 JAMES CAPEL NOVICES CHASE (£9,990: 2m) (4 runners)

201 01/1-111 WONDER MAN 44 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 8 11-12 R Dunwoody [top]
202 0F3222 ATLAAL 18 (F,G) (T Donnelly) J Jenkins 8-11-4 J Osborne 92
203 0F-1F43 MR JAMBOREE 18 (D,F,G) (Mrs D Lousada) J Gifford 7-11-4 P Scudamore 85
204 114/3-P2 NADIAD 15 (F,G) (J Gray) D McCain 7-11-4 B McCourt —

BETTING: 1-3 Wonder Man, 9-2 Atlaal, 8-1 Mr Jamboree, 14-1 Nadiad.

1992: YOUNG POKEY 7-12-0 J Osborne (5-4 fav) O Sherwood 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

WONDER MAN beat ATLAAL 3½l (1lb better off) in Kempton (2m, good to soft) novice chase in December. ATLAAL fell last, remounted, when distance 2nd to Travado in Kempton (2m, soft) novice chase with MR JAMBOREE (4lb better off) ¾l 3rd. NADIAD 15l 2nd of 7 to Gymcrak Sovereign in Nottingham (2m, good to soft) handicap hurdle.
Selection: WONDER MAN

2.30 DAILY TELEGRAPH HURDLE (£11,988: 3m) (4 runners) BBC1

301 /3P/3P CELTIC CHIEF 16 (C,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs L Sewell) M Pipe 10-11-10 J Lower —
302 02-4314 TYRONE BRIDGE 53 (D,S) (P Green) M Pipe 7-11-10 R Dunwoody 85
303 00P/114 BOSCEAN CHIEFTAIN 26 (D,F,S) (Mrs C Olds) Mrs J Retter 9-11-0 M A Fitzgerald 72
304 30-6441 SWEET GLOW 26 (CD,F,G,S) (Fairford Confectioners Ltd) M Pipe 6-11-0 P Scudamore [top]

BETTING: 4-5 Sweet Glow, 2-1 Tyrone Bridge, 8-1 Boscean Chieftain, Celtic Chief.

1992: FLOYD 12-11-10 G Bradley (4-1) D Elsworth 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

CELTIC CHIEF 6l 3rd of 6 to Phils Pride in Market Rasen (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft) novice chase on penultimate start. TYRONE BRIDGE 8½l 4th of 9 to Vagog in 9-runner grade 1 hurdle here (3m 1f 110yd, soft) in December. BOSCEAN CHIEFTAIN driven out to beat Sulagab ½l in 11-runner Wincanton (2m 6f, good to soft) handicap hurdle in December. SWEET GLOW beat Grace Card 2½l in handicap hurdle over course and distance (heavy) with BOSCEAN CHIEFTAIN (17lb worse off) 23l 4th.
Selection: SWEET GLOW (nap)

3.05 CRISPIN HANDICAP CHASE (£13,710: 3m 110yd) (7 runners) BBC1

401 112F-PF MUTARE 26 (D,G,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 8-12-0 R Dunwoody 95
402 U4-6133 ROWLANDSONS JEWELS 11 (D,F,G,S) D Murray Smith 12-11-4 D Gallagher 91
403 431321 VERY VERY ORDINARY 26 (CD,G,S) (Mrs W Cohen) J Upson 7-11-3 A Maguire 90
404 401455 KILDIMO 32 (CD,F,G,S) (Lady Harris) Mrs S Smith 13-11-2 L Wyer 96
405 31-02F1 ROSS VENTURE 95 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Featherer) J Edwards 8-11-0 J Osborne 91
406 411222 CALAPAEZ 18 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs M Caine) Miss B Sanders 9-11-0 M Richards 90
407 3P1-351 CACHE FLEUR 19 (B,D,F,G,S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 7-10-13 P Scudamore [top]

BETTING: 9-4 Very Very Ordinary, 3-1 Cache Fleur, 4-1 Calapaez, 5-1 Mutare, 7-1 Rowlandsons Jewels, 20-1 Ross Venture, Kildimo.

1992: COMBERMERE 8-10-10 P Scudamore (11-4) R Frost 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROWLANDSONS JEWELS 13l 3rd of 14 to Young Hustler in Doncaster (3m, good) handicap chase. Previously 22½l 3rd of 8 to Captain Dibble in handicap chase over course and distance (soft) with KILDIMO (7lb better off) 33½l 5th. VERY VERY ORDINARY comfortably beat Belmount Captain 8l in 6-runner handicap chase over course and distance (heavy) with MUTARE (11lb better off) weakening in 2nd when fell last. ROSS VENTURE beat Brave Defender 3l in 8-runner Windsor (3m, good) handicap chase in November. CALAPAEZ head 2nd of 7 to Ardbrin in Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, soft) handicap chase latest. CACHE FLEUR beat Clever Shepherd 2l in 7-runner Kempton (3m, good to soft) handicap chase.
Selection: CACHE FLEUR

3.35 REYNOLDSTOWN NOVICES CHASE (Grade II: £15,743: 3m 110yd) (4 runners) BBC1

501 4-31111 DAKYNS BOY 25 (CD,S) (A Paxler) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-12 C Llewellyn 95
502 1-30111 CAPABILITY BROWN 15 (D,F,G,S) (D Lewis) M Pipe 6-11-5 P Scudamore [top]
503 11232 CHANNELS GATE 63 (G,S) (Cabalva Racing) J Edwards 9-11-5 J Osborne 89
504 34P6-13 SILVERINO 25 (D,G,S) (D Humphreys) A Moore 7-11-5 G Moore 79

BETTING: 4-5 Dakyns Boy, 7-4 Capability Brown, 10-1 Channels Gate, 16-1 Silverino.

1992: DANNY HARROLD 8-11-5 M Pitman (2-1) Mrs J Pitman 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

DAKYNS BOY completed four-timer when easily beating Claxton Greene 15l in 11-runner novice chase over course and distance (soft) with SILVERINO (same terms) 8½l 3rd. CAPABILITY BROWN completed treble when, fell 3 out but remounted, beat Bates 30l in 9-runner Chepstow (3m, soft) novice chase. CHANNELS GATE 4l 2nd of 7 to Whispering Steel in Haydock (3m, soft) novice chase.
Selection: DAKYNS BOY

4.05 KILFANE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,622: 2m 4f) (8 runners)

601 210-300 BEEBOB 4 (G,S) (D Johnson) M Pipe 5-12-0 T Dascombe (5) 83
602 220-41P MARLIN DANCER 37 (D,G,S) (R Allen) Miss B Sanders 8-11-9 J Hails (5) 95
603 1200-02 SENDAI 18 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs M Tidwell) J Gifford 7-11-5 P Hide 95
604 25510P VICEROY JESTER 18 (CD,F,G,S) (F Broom) P Murphy 8-11-3 D Bohan (5) [top]
605 21/0-300 SWEET N' TWENTY 11 (D,F,G,S) (F Rooling Ltd) M Pipe 7-11-2 L Reynolds (5) 97
606 /0013F- DAN MARINO 378 (G,S) (Mrs N McGreavy) M Pipe 11-10-7 M Foster —
607 14-2425 MANENDA 18 (G) (Mrs C Smith) D Nicholson 6-10-4 M Keighley (7) 94
608 623-342 BEN ZABEEDY 22 (F) (C Bail) R Akehurst 8-10-3 J McCarthy 98

BETTING: 3-1 Sendai, 4-1 Marlin Dancer, 5-1 Ben Zabeedy, 6-1 Sweet N' Twenty, 8-1 Manenda, Viceroy Jester, 10-1 Beebob, 20-1 Dan Marino.

1992: MAYFAIR MINX 8-11-1 M McGonagle (9-4) S Christian 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

MARLIN DANCER beat Run Up The Flag 6l in 8-runner Kempton (2m 5f, good to soft) handicap hurdle on penultimate start. SENDAL multiple winner last term, 2l 2nd of 14 to Willsford in Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) handicap hurdle with MANENDA (5lb better off) 17½l 5th and BEEBOB (9lb better off) 15½l 7th. VICEROY JESTER beat Bellezza ½l in 8-runner amateur riders' handicap hurdle over course and distance (soft) in December. BEN ZABEEDY 6l 2nd of 9 to Steepline Royale in Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, soft) handicap hurdle with SWEET N' TWENTY (4lb better off) 18l 7th.
Selection: VICEROY JESTER

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rns	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
M Pipe	25	91	27.5	C Grant	3	10	30.0
Mrs S Smith	3	13	23.1	P Scudamore	28	100	28.0
O Sherwood	10	46	21.7	J Osborne	17	70	24.3
K Bailey	9	42	21.4	G McCourt	7	36	19.4
N Twiston-Davies	5	31	16.1	M A Fitzgerald	3	17	17.6
R Akehurst	7	49	14.3	R Dunwoody	12	120	10.0



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

ASCOT
BBC1

2.30: Sweet Glow looks the pick of Martin Pipe's three entries. He gave 12lb and a beating to previous winner Grace Card in a handicap here last month, his second course and distance win, and, in receipt of 10lb from both his stable companions, can follow up. Tyrone Bridge won at Newbury in November but that was his only victory in almost two years. Celtic Chief, once high class over hurdles, reverts from an unhappy spell chasing while Boscean Chieftain has a stiff task at the weights.

3.05: Very Very Ordinary can defy a rise in the weights. He was well handicapped when winning here last month (Mutare, held in second, fell at the last) and, although 11lb higher now, looks to have scope for improvement. Cache Fleur is still fairly treated after his Kempton win last time but his jumping is not always fluent, while Calapaez, who lost his chance with a bad mistake at the last on his latest start, continues to run well.

3.35: Dakyns Boy, an exciting prospect, should have the measure of Capability Brown. Rated superior to Young Hustler by his trainer, Dakyns Boy was an emphatic winner over course and distance last month with Silverino well held in third. Capability Brown's jumping still leaves something to be desired, a point proved famously at Chepstow last time when Peter Scudamore remounted to win after a fall three out.

George Rae

LUDLOW

THUNDERER

1.50 Inchcailloch. 2.20 Barry Owen. 2.50 Mr Tittle Tattle. 3.20 Torrent Bay. 3.50 Cabochon. 4.20 Snitton Lane. 4.50 Smiles Ahead.

Brian Beel: 3.20 Beau Rose.

GOING: GOOD, GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES SIS

1.50 BULL RING MAIDEN HURDLE (4-Y-O: £1,475: 2m) (14 runners)

1 AVENUE FOCH 214F D Murray-Smith 11-0 J White
2 425 COURT OF KINGS 4 J Bradley 11-0 Mr G Lewis (7)
3 26 DESERT FORCE 84 (BF) Miss Gay Kelleway 11-0 M Pitman
4 P INCHCAILLOCH 32 J King 11-0 J R Kavanagh
5 5 INDIAN RUN 21 R Hodges 11-0 W Irvine
6 SAAHI 177F C Weedon 11-0 Peter Hobbs
7 0304 THE TITAN GHOST 15 S Coathup 11-0 D J Moffatt (5)
8 U322 ATHAR 12 (BF) R Baker 10-9 A Webb
9 CONTINUITY 33F E Alston 10-9 K Doolan
10 4 INDIAN SWALLOW 85 (BF) D Nicholson 10-9 W Marston (3)
11 LADY BUCHAN 218F N Tinkler 10-9 M Dwyer
12 LEMON'S MILL 166F M Pipe 10-9 D Richmond (5)
13 P MISTY VIEW 22 J White 10-9 B Clifford (3)
14 6P SUPER SARENA 44 R Frost 10-9 J Frost

7-4 Lemon's Mill, 4-1 Athar, 5-1 Indian Swallow, 7-1 Continuity, 8-1 others.

2.20 MEENTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,038: 2m) (20)

1 F400 PEAK DISTRICT 8 (D,G,S) K Bridgwater 7-11-10 R Davis (5)
2 111/ PHAROAH'S GUEST 625 (D,F) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-10 D Bridgwater
3 2F60 DAYS OF THUNDER 18 (D,G) J White 5-11-8 B Clifford (3)
4 -F24 CASIENNE 67 (CD,F,G) P Murphy 5-11-4 E Byrne
5 03-3 BENGAL TIGER 25 P Evans 5-11-3 T Wall
6 5340 PANT LLIN 8 (CD,F) F Jordan 7-11-1 J Lodder
7 064P OLD PEG 8 (B,D,F) R Manning 5-11-1 W McFarland
8 50-0 NACONA 7 (D,S) J King 7-11-0 J R Kavanagh
9 4P45 BARRY OWEN 18 (BF) B McMahon 7-11-0 P Niven
10 130P QUIET MISS 35 (D,BF,F) Mrs A Knight 4-10-13 S McNeill
11 3-P4 POLDER 8 (D,F) D Williams 7-10-12 H Davies
12 8440 DAILY SPORT GIRL 15 B Llewellyn 4-10-9 Mr J L Llewellyn (7)
13 4505 TAYLORS CASTLE 21 (CD,G) S Cole 6-10-8 Lorna Vincent
14 0/0 OK RECORDS 21 D O'Neill 6-10-5 V Slattery (5)
15 F-50 WOTAMONA 21 B Palling 5-10-4 D Tegg
16 0400 YANKEE FLYER 8 (B,D,S) Miss S Wilton 6-10-2 I Lawrence
17 /F0 M R TWO 83 P Evans 6-10-0 Martin Jones
18 F0P- BEIJA FLOR 26F F Jordan 6-10-0 M Doyle (7)
19 -F00 COLWAY PRINCE 29 A Jones 5-10-0 G Upton
20 /38- WASSL'S MILLION 418 W Price 7-10-5 A Flanigan (7)

3-1 Casienne, 5-1 Pharoah's Guest, 6-1 Polder, Taylors Castle, 8-1 Bengal Tiger, 10-1 Barry Owen, 12-1 Yankee Flyer, 14-1 Nacona, 16-1 Pant Llin, 20-1 others.

2.50 BUTTS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,957: 3m) (13)

1 1F23 CLAXTON GREENE 12 (D,BF,S) M Pipe 9-12-0 D Richmond (5)
2 -31P ROYAL SAXON 40 (G) Miss H Knight 7-11-7 P Niven
3 0-F8 RU VALENTINO 86 (F) J Edwards 9-11-3 N Williamson
4 3P64 NOUGAT RUSSE 7 (CD,G) N Twiston-Davies 12-11-1 D Bridgwater
5 FP62 MR TITTLE TATTLE 12 (B,F) K Bailey 7-10-9 S McNeill
6 P/0P LOVER BILL 81 (B) M Wilkinson 11-10-8 P Ward (7)
7 2005 VISAGA 21 (F) D Nicholson 7-10-6 H Davies
8 PP0- HORCUM 272 P Pritchard 8-10-5 A Webb
9 6-FP BARTONDALE 44 J Bradley 8-10-5 D Tegg
10 PPP CHANNEL PASTIME 18 D Williams 9-10-5 Mr G Lewis (7)
11 F540 BADBURY LAD 35 J King 7-10-5 J R Kavanagh
12 -P44 JIMMY O'DEA 82 T Bill 6-10-5 C Hawkins
13 PFPP TANDERAGEE 15 (B,S) Mrs N Sharpe 12-10-5 Martin Jones

7-4 Claxton Greene, 3-1 Ru Valentino, 5-1 Mr Tittle Tattle, 6-1 Visaga, 8-1 Royal Saxon, 12-1 Nougat Rousse, 16-1 Jimmy O'Dea, 20-1 Badbury Lad, 25-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: D Murray-Smith, 7 winners from 20 runners, 35.0%; S Christian, 6 from 22, 27.3%; M Pipe, 21 from 78, 26.9%; S Sherwood, 4 from 15, 26.7%; D Nicholson, 14 from 63, 22.2%; Miss H Knight, 4 from 19, 21.1%.

JOCKEYS: W Marston, 6 winners from 17 rides, 35.3%; J White, 4 from 14, 28.6%; J Frost, 5 from 23, 21.7%; P Niven, 3 from 14, 21.4%; B M Clifford, 3 from 22, 13.6%; J Lodder, 8 from 65, 12.3%.

3.20 ASHFORD CARBONELL HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £1,402: 3m) (11)

1 1136 ROYLE SPEEDMASTER 111 (D,F,G) O Sherwood 9-12-7 J Durkan (3)
2 /1-P BEAU ROSE 140 (D,F,G) C Trietline 10-12-0 M Armytage
3 0000- DEEP LEGEND 372 F Matthews 8-12-0 B Dixon (7)
4 40-P FURZEN HILL 110 (B,D,G,S) J King 14-12-0 C Hancock (7)
5 P0U- JUST MICK 296 (CD,F) Mrs H Dowson 12-12-0 J M Pritchard (7)
6 5/3/ KNUCKLE DOWN 1857 Miss A Green 12-12-0 C Stockton (7)
7 UU4- MASTER MUCK 261 (S) N Twiston-Davies 10-12-0 R Smith (7)
8 /31- MISTER BUTLER 272 (CD,F,G) G Blagbrough 14-12-0 N Dalrymple (7)
9 3/P/ TENESAINT 775 (D,F,G,S) C Saunders 12-12-0 A Sansome (7)
10 02P- THE CITY MINSTREL 280 (CD,F,G) S Bush 8-12-0 S Bush (7)
11 1P0- TORRENT BAY 345 (D,F,G,S) C Egerton 11-12-0 J Weatherby (7)

6-4 Royle Speedmaster, 3-1 Torrent Bay, 11-2 Beau Rose, 8-1 Mister Butler, 14-1 Master Muck, 16-1 Tenesaint, 20-1 others.

3.50 MARSHBROOK NOVICES HURDLE (£2,038: 2m) (18)

1 -251 CABOCHON 25 (D,S) R Frost 6-11-7 J Frost
2 40 ALTISHAR 125 D Gandolfo 5-11-0 P Holley
3 P BARE FISTED 35 J King 5-11-0 J R Kavanagh
4 P342 BLACK JOKER 18 A J Wilson 7-11-0 K Brown (7)
5 -FU5 BOBBY SOCKS 14 R Lee 7-11-0 D Tegg
6 BUZBOUR 9F D Wintle 5-11-0 R Davis (5)
7 2513- EDWARD SEYMOUR 14 (CD,S) W Jenks 6-11-0 Mr T Jenks (7)
8 0-00 IDIOM 21 J Edwards 6-11-0 N Williamson
9 P- KASAYID 417 S Christian 6-11-0 G Upton
10 0-08 MAJOR BUSH 29 Mrs J Pitman 6-11-0 M Pitman
11 PP-P MIGHTY CHANCE 124 F Jordan 8-11-0 J Lodder
12 20-4 PHARLY STORY 111 (B,BF) M Pipe 5-11-0 D Richmond (5)
13 0 RIMOUSKI 120F B Cambidge 5-11-0 Mr J Cambidge
14 5 ARRASTRA 15 R Lee 5-10-9 D Tegg
15 0503 CWM ARCTIC 14 Mrs A Price 6-10-9 Mr C Campbell (7)
16 0 ALDERTON ROAD 7 Mrs B Waring 6-10-9 N Mann
17 0-PP LLACCA PRINCESS 14 M Eckley 5-10-9 D Meredith (3)
18 00 OUTCROP 18 Miss H Knight 5-10-9 P Niven

5-4 Cabochon, 5-2 Pharly Story, 5-1 Black Joker, 8-1 Edward Seymour, 10-1 Major Bush, 14-1 Arrastra, 16-1 Cwm Arctic, 20-1 others.

4.20 TENBURY NOVICES CHASE (£2,671: 2m 4f) (15)

1 31PP OLD ROAD 23 (S) D White 7-11-11 R Davis (5)
2 30P2 ALDINGTON BELL 19 (B,F) C Trietline 10-11-5 D Bridgwater
3 0/P CEDARS ROSSLARE 18 R Frost 8-11-5 J Frost
4 0-0P EIGHTY EIGHT 21 Mrs H Dowson 8-11-5 NON-RUNNER
5 102F FAIR BROTHER 20 (B,S) D Murray-Smith 7-11-5 J White
6 203 HOWARYAFXD 79 Miss H Knight 8-11-5 P Niven
7 5PPP- JESSOP 12 S Mellor 8-11-5 M Perrett
8 -3UP LAWNSWOOD SUN 18 R Hollinshead 7-11-5 Gary Lyons
9 0PPF MAYTOWN 21 (V) P Murphy 7-11-5 E Byrne
10 -5PF RIVER FLY 53 J White 8-11-5 B Clifford (3)
11 0P-P ROYAL HAVEN 84 S Sherwood 7-11-5 G Upton
12 P1-P SMALLMEAD LAD 13 (G) D Gandolfo 6-11-5 A S Smith
13 -5P4 SOLICITOR'S CHOICE 11 (F,S) T Bill 10-11-5 J Railton
14 /PU6 DOREEN'S PRIDE 27 P Murphy 7-11-0 W McFarland
15 -423 SNITTON LANE 46 (F,G,S) J Edwards 7-11-0 N Williamson

2-1 Snitton Lane, 5-2 Fair Brother, 4-1 Howaryafxd, 7-1 Aldington Bell, 12-1 Solicitor's Choice, 16-1 Old Road, 20-1 Smallmead Lad, 25-1 others.

4.50 LEOMINSTER HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,626: 2m 5f 110yd) (13)

1 -111 HARD TO HOLD 14 (F,G,S) A Hambly 10-11-10 Mr A Hambly
2 F-00 AFARISTOUN 18 (C,F,G,S) J Edwards 9-11-6 N Williamson
3 -000 SEA TROUT 46 (F) C Jones 9-11-0 D Bridgwater
4 FF02 RUBBIS BOY 13 (F) S Sherwood 7-10-8 A S Smith
5 -F01 GROUSEMAN 20 (C,G,S) Miss H Knight 7-10-8 P Niven
6 P021 ANDERMATT 44 (S) J Mackie 6-10-7 C Hawkins
7 1242 SMILES AHEAD 53 (G) P Bevan 5-10-6 T Wall
8 -400 SUREN 40 (S) C Weedon 7-10-6 B Clifford (3)
9 5303 FIRST CRACK 34 (F,G,S) F Jordan 8-10-3 J Lodder
10 5U10 CHARMED I'M SURE 20 (B,F,S) P Murphy 6-10-1 W McFarland
11 345- MARQUEE CAFE 256 (F,S) J Kirby 9-10-0 G Upton
12 -006 COMANECI 35 (G) R Juckes 5-10-0 W Humphreys
13 -R40 LUCKY HARVEST 12 Mrs A Ratcliff 6-10-0 Gee Armytage

7-4 Grouseman, 4-1 Rubbis Boy, 5-1 Hard To Hold, 6-1 Smiles Ahead, 8-1 Andermatt, 12-1 Charmed I'm Sure, 14-1 Marquee Cafe, 16-1 others.

Hobbs loses 'winner'

PETER Hobbs lost a 31st birthday winner at Lingfield yesterday when Keen Vision was disqualified from the Clematis Handicap Hurdle after losing his weight-cloth.

Hobbs gained a cheeky "victory" on the 7-4 favourite, catching 33-1 shot Jarrwah in the final strides to win by a neck. However, Keen Vision had lost the cloth half-a-mile from home and Hobbs weighed in 6lb light, prompting an objection from the clerk of the scales and the inevitable disqualification.

"I don't know what happened — it was just one of those things," Hobbs said. "It wouldn't have made any difference as the horse only does enough to win anyway."

Hobbs did not have to wait long for compensation as Shimmering Scarlet won the Cotoneaster Novices' Handicap Hurdle after Raba Riba, the 6-4 favourite, had fallen.

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RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Warwick

Going: soft

1.30 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, RADICAL VIEWS (Mr E Bailey, 11-4 fav); 2, Bee Garden (Mrs J Litston, 6-1); 3, Moor Scope (Mr A Farrant, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Treyford (5th), 5 Rain Mark (4th), 7 Padrigal (6th), 16 Ryton Run (pu), 20 Green Walk (pu), 25 Liams Pride (f). 9 ran. NR: Im Privileged. 25l, 1l, dist, dist, 1½l. Mrs A Murray at Oxford. Tote: £3.90; £2.10, £1.90, £2.40. DF: £15.20. CSF: £17.89.

2.00 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, FOX CHAPEL (D Byrne, 11-4 jt-fav; Thunderer's nap); 2, Far Too Loud (M A Fitzgerald, 9-1); 3, Chichell's Hurst (A Carroll, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 11-4 jt-fav Fairfields Cone (6th), 8 Beauchamp Express (pu), Cresager (4th), 14 Sound Of Islay (pu), 16 Mariners Secret, 33 Stage Player (5th). 9 ran. NR: Magnus Pym. 2½l, nk, 12l, 10l, 3l. Jimmy Fitzgerald at Malton. Tote: £4.00; £1.30, £2.00, £2.20. DF: £25.20. CSF: £26.81. Tricast: £83.59.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, COONAWARA (C Llewellyn, 11-8); 2, Sparkling Sunset (R Dunwoody, 5-4 fav); 3, Ocean Leader (G Bradley, 40-1). ALSO RAN: 16 Lumumba Days (4th), 25 Pede Gale, 33 Lo-Flying Missile (5th), 40 My Tobias, 50 Postman's Path, Whisky Rye, 66 Fair Plume (6th), Master Boston, 200 Felsper (pu), Griffins Bar (pu). 13 ran. 4l, dist, ½l, 12l, 15l. T Forster at Wantage. Tote: £2.60; £1.10, £1.20, £3.30. DF: £1.60. CSF: £2.94.

3.00 (3m 5f ch) 1, DIRECT (N Williamson, 15-8 fav); 2, Pamber Priory (G Rowe, 7-2); 3, Beresfords Girl (E Byrne, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 9-4 Duntree (4th). 4 ran. 10l, 4l, dist. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye. Tote: £2.30. DF: £4.00. CSF: £7.65.

3.30 (2m hdle) 1, SPECTACULAR DAWN (R Dunwoody, 7-4 fav); 2, Boogie Bopper (P Scudamore, 3-1); 3, Suez Canal (J Lodder, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Miss Doody (6th), 8 Gavako (5th), 10 Zamirah (4th), 12 Turtle Beach (pu), 33 Red Sombrero (f), 50 Linpac Express (pu). 9 ran. 4l, ¾l, dist, 2l, 2½l. N Henderson at Lambourn. Tote: £3.10; £1.10, £1.40, £2.00. DF: £5.10. CSF: £7.78.

4.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, NEVADA GOLD (D Gallagher, 8-1); 2, Crystal Heights (M A Fitzgerald, 4-1); 3, Jopanini (R Dunwoody, 5-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Cowden Cottage (f), 12 Woody Will (pu). 5 ran. 15l, 6l. F Yardley at Ombersley. Tote: £9.20; £2.30, £1.90. DF: £18.00. CSF: £25.41.

4.30 (2m flat) 1, TEXAN BABY (V Slattery, 14-1); 2, Glano (L Dace, 10-1); 3, Snowshill Shaker (Mr M Harris, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 3 fav Golden Spinner, 4 Dowry Square, 11-2 St Brad, 7 Pukka Sahib, 10 Master Kiwi, Emperor Buck (4th), 12 Marrob, Oats N Barley, 20 Mariner's Air, 25 Mariners Memory, 33 Buckskin Clover, Dalehouse Lane, Annie Kelly, Black H'Penny, Anythingyoulike, Major Nova, Keylu, Rasta Man (5th), Take Chances (6th). 22 ran. NR: Jet Jockey. 3½l, 7l, 15l, 5l, 12l. N Twiston-Davies at Cheltenham. Tote: £17.90; £5.00, £3.90, £9.70. DF: £151.00. CSF: £158.18.

Placepot: £93.30.

Carlisle

Going: good

1.50 (3m hdle) 1, POLAR REGION (M Dwyer, 15-8 fav); 2, River Pearl (B Storey, 9-2); 3, Andros Prince (R Garritty, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 5 Morgans Harbour (4th), 6 Man's Best Friend (6th), 14 Roy's Dream (pu), 20 Carousel Calypso (6th), 25 Last Of The Flies (5th), Island Gale, 50 Benghazi (unseated rider), 66 Raikes Rustler, 100 Forth And Tay (pu), 200 Moss Bee. 13 ran. NR: Tammy My Girl. 3½l, 4l, 15l, 3½l, dd-ht. J FitzGerald at Malton. Tote: £3.00; £1.60, £1.60, £2.80. DF: £6.00. CSF: £9.83.

2.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, SHAHMIRAJ (A Larnach, 7-1); 2, Touch 'N' Pass (P Harley, 16-1); 3, Al Sahil (B Clifford, 6-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 7 Commanche Sioux (5th), 8 Muisrid, 10 Hiltown Blues (4th), 14 Kamart (6th), 16 August, 20 Nortino, Solitary Reaper, Design Wise, 25 Dinsdale Lad, Reklaw. 13 ran. NR: Invite D'Honneur. ½l, ¾l, 10l, 2l, 4l. P Cheesbrough at Bishop Auckland. Tote: £10.20; £3.30, £15.40, £1.10. DF: £127.20. CSF: £107.25. Tricast: £211.89.

2.50 (3m ch) 1, CAROUSEL ROCKET (P Niven, 9-1); 2, Tribal Ruler (C Grant, 12-1); 3, Abercromby Chief (A Orkney, 20-1); 4, Buckle It Up (Mr D Mactaggart, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 4 fav Teoprain Law (pu), 13-2 Radical Lady, 8 Boreen Owen, 10 Folk Dance, Kambalda Rambler, 14 Trusty Friend (ur), Fast Cruise, 20 Absailor (5th), 25 Manhattan Chase (pu), 33 Super Fountain (pu), Royal Mile, 66 Majic Rain, 100 Alice's Boy (pu), Eddies Well (6th). 18 ran. 7l, 4l, 1½l, 3l, 15l. M Hammond at Middleham. Tote: £7.50; £2.10, £2.20, £6.10, £3.60. DF: £40.40. CSF: £102.88. Tricast: £1,017.38.

3.20 (2m 1f hdle) 1, CAITHNESS PRINCE (Mr D Parker, 10-1); 2, Pakenham (N Doughty, 9-2); 3, Ninia (M Moloney, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Spanish Fair (4th), 8 Sarona Smith (5th), 9 Here Comes Tibby, 12 Honest Fred (6th), 16 Orton House, 33 Thor Stone, Imgonnawin, 50 Minty Muncher, Joyful Imp, Scarlet Berry, Ocean Rose, 500 Sound Profit. 15 ran. ½l, 1l, hd, 2l, 5l. C Parker at Lockerbie. Tote: £15.90; £3.10, £1.70, £2.70. DF: £32.40. CSF: £49.35.

3.50 (3m ch) 1, STRONG APPROACH (B Storey, 16-1); 2, Yahoab (G McCourt, 7-4 fav); 3, On The Hooch (P Williams, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Circulation (6th), 6 Spree Cross (5th), 8 Stags Fell (f), 10 Positive Action, Great Pokey (4th), 25 Any Gossip (pu), 33 Shady Road (ur). 10 ran. ¾l, 2½l, 6l, hd, dist. J Charlton at Stocksfield. Tote: £13.60; £2.00, £1.50, £1.50. DF: £16.90. CSF: £42.19. Tricast: £383.33.

4.20 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, TINDARI (G Tormey, 5-1); 2, Gymcrak Gamble (A Linton, 10-1); 3, Hot Star (N Bentley, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav King Of Steel (5th), 9 Festival Fancy, Charlotte's Emma (4th), 10 Ballyford, Hardihero, 16 Beyond Reason (6th), 20 Palanquin, Treborkers, 33 Lalour, 100 Home To Roost, 200 Prior Conviction. 14 ran. NR: Justice Lea. Nk, 7l, 20l, 2l, 1½l. J Jefferson at Malton. Tote: £6.00; £2.10, £4.00, £2.80. DF: £89.20. CSF: £48.01. Tricast: £594.44.

Placepot: £152.10.

Lingfield Park

Going: standard (all-weather); soft, heavy patches (turf)

1.40 (2m hdle) 1, Lyn's Return (D Gallagher, 1-7 fav); 2, Lamore Ritorna (16-1); 3, Lord Neptune (10-1). 5 ran. NR: Ima Red Neck. 8l, 7l. R Simpson. Tote: £1.20; £1.10, £1.90. DF: £4.00. CSF: £3.80.

2.10 (2m 2f hdle) 1, Royal Circus (D J Burchell, 5-1); 2, Glengoole (20-1); 3, Cheeka (11-2). Chamonix 7-2 jt-fav (pu). 9 ran. 7l, nk. P Hiatt. Tote: £4.40; £1.60, £8.30, £3.00. DF: £29.90. CSF: £79.58.

2.40 (2m 4f 110yd ch turf) 1, Bowl Of Oats (S McNeill, 7-1); 2, Skinnhill (7-2); 3, Major Kinsman (4-5 fav). 4 ran. 4l, ¾l. A Turnell. Tote: £10.40. DF: £11.30. CSF: £25.83.

3.10 (2m 4f hdle) 1, Jarrwah (A Webb, 33-1); 2, Alreel (4-1); 3, Absent Relative (7-1). Keen Vision 7-4 fav. 10 ran. Nk, 12l. J Spearing. Tote: £32.60; £4.30, £1.80, £1.20. DF: £18.30. CSF: £146.26. Tricast: £951.97. Keen Vision finished first but after a stewards' enquiry was disqualified.

3.40 (2m hdle) 1, Donosti (R Greene, 4-5 fav); 2, Whippers Delight (2-1); 3, Fact Or Fiction (4-1). 3 ran. ¾l, 12l. R Lee. Tote: £2.50. DF: £1.40. CSF: £2.54.

4.10 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Shimmering Scarlet (Peter Hobbs, 3-1); 2, Littledale (12-1); 3, Legal Legacy (25-1). Raba Riba 6-4 fav. 11 ran. 20l, 4l. R Buckler. Tote: £4.70; £1.80, £2.50, £4.60. DF: £28.60. CSF: £39.43. Tricast: £737.94.

4.40 (1m 5f flat) 1, Harry The Cab (J Driscoll, 10-11 fav); 2, Bell One (3-1); 3, Strong Trace (14-1). 8 ran. 1½l, 12l. J Scargill. Tote: £2.00; £1.70, £1.10, £4.20. DF: £4.00. CSF: £4.23.

Placepot: £173.10.

□ Trainer John Edwards will send Direct for the Midlands or Scottish National after his win at Warwick yesterday.

Dunwoody on Royal Derbi

THE booking of Richard Dunwoody yesterday for Royal Derbi caused the gelding to be backed from 12-1 to a best-priced 8-1 with Ladbrokes for the Tote Gold Trophy at Newbury on Saturday (Robert Wright writes).

Royal Derbi returned to form when winning the AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown ten days ago, but Declan Murphy, his jockey there, is unable to continue the partnership due to a 14-day suspension incurred at Cheltenham the previous day.

Confirming Dunwoody as substitute, Royal Derbi's trainer Neville Callaghan said: "Declan has been lucky for me and gets on well with him, but I can't complain to have the man of the moment instead."

With top weight Ruling likely to take his chance, Royal Derbi will carry 10st 8lb.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

2.10 St Ville. 2.40 Suluk. 3.10 Dancing Days. 3.40 John Shaw. 4.10 Northern Nation. 4.40 Czar Nicholas.

GOING: STANDARD SIS

2.10 CHEESE CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,683: 2m 4f) (6 runners)

1 0141 ST VILLE 21 (C,S) J Curtis 7-12-0 S Mason
2 314- BLUE DISC 12F (CD,F) R Hollinshead 8-11-12 S Wynne
3 4514 VOMERO 8 (D) P Nicholls 8-11-9 R Greene
4 -343 SOLID 14 (C) D Cosgrove 5-10-8 D Walsh
5 0015 MY LINDIANNE 8 (S) J Dooler 6-10-0 M Hourigan
6 /080 GYDAROS 65 Denys Smith 8-10-0 P Waggott

5-4 St Ville, 2-1 Blue Disc, 9-2 Vomero, 8-1 Solid, 10-1 My Lindianne, 25-1 Gydaros.

2.40 CLAY CLAIMING HURDLE (£1,733: 2m 2f) (9)

1 -111 SULUK 14 (CD,G) R Hollinshead 8-11-10 S Wynne (5)
2 3-P6 SAN FRANCISCO JOE 14 (CD) A Denson 9-11-4 D Skyrme
3 0000 DRY TIME 8 (B) M H Easterby 5-11-2 R Marley
4 0F0U THE POINT IS 21 F Yardley 6-11-2 D Byrne
5 0 KHALLOOF 39 Denys Smith 4-11-1 P Waggott (7)
6 64PF OUR SURVIVOR 19 (B,F) M W Easterby 9-11-0 Mr S Walker (7)
7 0025 VILCOE BAY 21 (BF) B McMahon 6-11-0 S Smith Eccles
8 P350 WHISKEY BLUES 7 (B,G) B Richmond 8-11-0 R J Beggan
9 44-0 ROYAL MAZI 146 (F) C Beever 6-10-9 N Bentley (3)

1-6 Suluk, 10-1 Vilcoe Bay, 12-1 San Francisco Joe, 16-1 Our Survivor, 20-1 Royal Mazi, 25-1 others.

3.10 GRANITE NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,484: 2m 6f) (10)

1 0152 DANCING DAYS 14 (B,C,G) J Parkes 7-11-10 N Smith
2 56P1 RAGTIME COWBOY JOE 21 (C) J Allen 8-11-6 Mr N Bradley (7)
3 F202 WAYWARD EDWARD 28 Mrs S Lamyman 7-11-2 D Telfer
4 3056 ALIAS SILVER 18 J Curtis 8-11-1 M Dwyer
5 U0-4 MICRONOVA 38 T Thomson Jones 7-10-9 S Smith Eccles
6 0F-0 HIGH CASTE 12 (B) B Morgan 6-10-4 L Harvey
7 P00 SAINTHILLS SON 14 M Tate 8-10-2 M Hourigan (3)
8 P-P0 HIT THE BOX 54 C Beever 8-10-0 N Bentley (3)
9 -3PP APPLIED GRAPHICS 25 J Mackie 5-10-0 T Eley (5)
10 -P0P NORMEAD LASS 7 Miss P Hall 5-10-0 S Wynne (5)

5-4 Dancing Days, 4-1 Micronova, 5-1 High Caste, 8-1 Ragtime Cowboy Joe, 10-1 Alias Silver, Wayward Edward, 20-1 others.

3.40 ROCK NOVICES HURDLE (£1,484: 2m) (9)

1 212 JOHN SHAW 15 (CD,BF) R O'Leary 5-11-9 M Dwyer
2 P0-5 FLUIDITY 8 E Buckley 5-11-3 R Greene (3)
3 5030 ROMANY SPLIT 14 D Nicholson 8-11-3 R Massey (7)
4 BOLD HONEY F Sheridan 5-10-12 M Hourigan (3)
5 40-0 CHADWICK'S GINGER 18 B Morgan 5-10-12 L Harvey
6 3-0 COUNTRY MISTRESS 102 J Old 6-10-12 T Grantham
7 P- KAHHAL 207F N Babbage 5-10-12 S Earle
8 3 THUNDERBIRD ONE 19 Denys Smith 4-10-7 P Waggott (7)
9 0 TRADERS DREAM 44 T Thomson Jones 4-10-7 S Smith Eccles

5-4 John Shaw, 7-4 Thunderbird One, 11-4 Country Mistress, 20-1 Romany Split, 33-1 others.

4.10 CHALK HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,683: 2m) (5)

1 03P2 MRS JAWLEYFORD 28 (D,S) C Smith 5-12-0 M Ranger
2 4211 NORTHERN NATION 9F (CD,G) W Clay 5-11-13 Diane Clay
3 5-F3 PERE BAZILLE 97 (V,D,F,G) P Nicholls 6-11-3 R Greene (3)
4 3/45 DRUMSTICK 14 (D,F) K Bailey 7-11-0 A Tory
5 8252 HAVE A NIGHTCAP 14 (G) J Harris 4-10-13 J A Harris

6-4 Northern Nation, 5-2 Pere Bazille, 4-1 Mrs Jawleyford, 9-2 Have A Nightcap, 10-1 Drumstick.

4.40 SANDY NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£828: 2m) (16)

1 1-0 SHEEP STEALER 8 Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-12-0 W Dwan (5)
2 I'VE CALLED TIME P Nicholls 5-11-7 R Greene (3)
3 MISTI MAC R O'Leary 5-11-7 K Davies (7)
4 3 PHILHARMONIC 11 Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-7 G Tormey (7)
5 STONE WARRIOR Mrs A Swinbank 6-11-7 Mark Roberts (7)
6 0 WEARSIDE 14 Denys Smith 5-11-7 P Waggott (7)
7 00 COMMANCHE DRIFTER 81 J Bostock 5-11-2 M Hourigan (3)
8 4 BANCHORY 11 M W Easterby 4-10-11 Mr S Walker (7)
9 2 CZAR NICHOLAS 14 Miss S Hall 4-10-11 D Bentley (5)
10 0 DIAMOND PROSPECTOR 33 A Hide 4-10-11 R Farrant (5)
11 0 NEVENTER 14 M Chapman 4-10-11 Mr M Chapman
12 4 NORTHERN RARITY 14 J Norton 4-10-11 W Fry (7)
13 0 WARWOM 27 (BF) J Glover 4-10-11 S D Williams (3)
14 WITH IMPUNITY T Thomson Jones 4-10-11 D Geoghegan (5)
15 5- BOWLAND GIRL 14 R Hollinshead 4-10-6 S Wynne (5)
16 SKELTON LASS J Parkes 4-10-6 C Dennis (3)

4-1 Philharmonic, 9-2 Banchory, 5-1 Sheep Stealer, 6-1 Czar Nicholas, 7-1 I've Called Time, 8-1 With Impunity, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss S Hall, 3 winners from 5 runners, 60.0%; A Hide, 5 from 12, 41.7%; J Glover, 8 from 21, 38.1%; T Thomson Jones, 6 from 17, 35.3%; M H Easterby, 5 from 15, 33.3%; R Hollinshead, 28 from 102, 27.5%.

JOCKEYS: Diane Clay, 6 winners from 14 rides, 42.9%; S Smith Eccles, 16 from 46, 34.8%; M Dwyer, 6 from 27, 22.2%; S Wynne, 15 from 78, 19.2%; R Marley, 4 from 24, 16.7%. Only qualifiers

THE TIMES WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 10 1993

ME: Britain's fittest and strongest may be most vulnerable to condition dubbed 'yuppie flu'

Athletes left fit to drop by spreading virus



Adrian Holloway on the illness that has left some outstanding sporting careers in ruins

When the footballer, Steve Hodge, disclosed last month that he has myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), he provided further evidence for a growing lobby which claims that the disease is a particular threat to top sporting competitors because strenuous exercise can weaken the immune system.

Hodge, who appeared briefly as a substitute for Leeds United against Manchester United on Monday night, won 24 England caps with his energetic running, but he may have paid a high price for the level of fitness he achieved. He is one of at least a dozen British sportsmen known to have caught ME in the past five years.

There is considerable medical controversy about ME, which is sometimes called post-viral fatigue syndrome or chronic fatigue syndrome. Many doctors feel that patients are complaining of physical symptoms found in many cases of depressive illness, including those that may have been precipitated by viral infection or stress and strain in a hyper-conscientious character who is striving to maintain his or her high standards.

The controversy will continue, but Hodge has no doubts that he is suffering from a specific illness that is triggered by viral infection and especially affects those under physical and mental stress. ME was known as "yuppie flu" in the late Eighties because of the initial feelings of lethargy experienced by the sufferer. Exercise-induced fatigue usually follows and eventually affects the brain, prompting some to think they are going insane before it is diagnosed.

In September 1987, Hodge realised that something was wrong when playing for Tottenham Hotspur against Queens Park Rangers. David Bardsley pushed the ball past him, but Hodge thought it was still at his feet. Hodge complained at half-time that his concentration had been affected and asked to be substituted. Yet he played on, for five years, before his ME was confirmed a few weeks ago.

A cross-country champion as a teenager, Hodge broke into the England side at the 1986 World Cup aged 23. Dr Charles Shepherd, medical adviser to the ME Association, believes he was particularly at risk. "Hodge's intense, non-stop performances over 90-minute sessions would make him more susceptible to catching ME than other players," he said.

Research conducted at Oxford University has highlighted the paradox faced by the fittest. Professor Eric Newsholme's work suggests that strenuous exercise reduces blood glutamine, which is processed in the muscle, to 80 per cent of its normal level. This means that the T-cells which comprise a vital part of the immune system do not function properly, increasing susceptibility to the viruses that cause ME.

Hodge's troubles began when he over-exerted himself by going straight into a full season with Tottenham after returning from Mexico. Dr Shepherd said: "Hodge is conscientious and like most people who get ME he made the mistake of plodding on when he wasn't feeling well. The stress involved would have been an important co-factor in his illness."

With no cuts or broken bones, Tottenham concluded that Hodge was homesick and sold him back to Nottingham Forest, his first club. Brian Clough's preference for light training methods suited Hodge perfectly, but it was during his second spell at the City Ground that the disease began to affect him mentally.

His speech became slurred and he soon dreaded post-match interviews because they might expose his condition. Hodge went to great lengths to avoid autograph hunters in case he spelt his name wrong.

"Hodge's mental symptoms are classic," Dr Shepherd said. "Even professional people with ME have terrible trouble with writing. It's all to do with what we call organic brain dysfunction."

The illness reached a peak on England's tour of Australia in 1991, when Hodge feared he was going mad. He was unable to communicate properly and returned home without appearing in a game. He moved to Leeds before the start of last season.

Considered a hypochondriac by some in Nottingham, Hodge took to wearing a disguise of dark glasses and a hat when visiting local libraries to search through medical books. It was on one of these visits, eight weeks ago, that he found a book on ME that seemed to describe his problem exactly.

He immediately saw a specialist in Leeds, who said he had been suffering from a mild form of the disease for five years and that his condition was improving.

Less fortunate footballers who have been forced into retirement by the disease include Billy Garton, of whom great things were expected at Manchester United, and Davie Provan, of Celtic and Scotland.

Provan was 29 when he trained through a bout of gastric flu in July 1985. "I lost some weight, but carried on until one day when we were playing Rangers at Ibrox," he said. "I was taking a corner and couldn't focus on the ball. It felt like I had lead boots on."

Constantly exhausted, the winger once overslept and failed to turn up for a match. By January 1986, when he played his last game, Provan was regularly sleeping 19 hours a day.

Provan now runs a hotel business and leads a fairly normal life. He said: "I'm 60 per cent recovered. I still have memory lapses and sometimes get my words mixed up. I reckon I missed three years at the top and two in the lower divisions, but when I look at some people who've got ME I think I've got off lightly."

Another sportsman to be beaten by ME is John Gladwin, part of the missing generation of British middle-distance runners. Heir apparent to Cram, Coe and Ovett, Gladwin won a silver medal in the 1,500 metres at the 1986 Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh. He was expected to lead the challenge at the Seoul Olympics.

Then, in January 1988, he woke one morning feeling tired. Instead of running his usual five miles before lunch he stayed in bed and ran 12 in the evening to compensate. It was the start of a descent that within six months was to reduce him to despair.

"One day I'd feel brilliant, the next two I'd be flat on my back," he said. Shopping soon became a considerable task. His memory failing and social life disintegrating, Gladwin considered suicide.

Days spent in front of the television at least served to identify his illness. Gladwin saw Clare Francis, the yachtswoman, describe her condition and he immediately contacted the ME Association. By August, Gladwin was recovering, and after a rest period began the first of a number of comeback attempts. At the age of 29 he feels he can no longer run the risk of returning to competition. "I keep breaking down," he said, "so I ask myself whether it's worth it. I've got to pay my mortgage and I've just set up my own business. It's very sad because I know there's no one in Britain at the moment who could beat me. It's the 80-mile-a-week training slog that did for me. I overcooked."

Jon Ridgeon, the hurdler, is another athlete who overcooked, but unlike Gladwin, he made a complete recovery, and last year came second in the 400 metres hurdles at the World Cup. Ridgeon and Debbie Marti, Britain's No. 1 high jumper who fought ME for five years, hold out a beacon of hope that the disease can be overcome, although the ME Association says only 20 per cent of sufferers shake it off. The most notable success was Andrew Oldcorn, the golfer who briefly led the Open in 1990, two years after experiencing complete debilitation.

Dr Shepherd said that there is no known cure for ME. "Lifestyle management is probably the most important factor in treating the disease," he said. "The best thing for it is rest and convalescence."

Ridgeon made a complete recovery just four months after catching the disease in May 1988. His was a textbook case: a Cambridge undergraduate and a leading medal hope for the 110 metres hurdles at Seoul, Ridgeon caught the Cocksackie B virus, one of the enteroviruses associated with ME, after pushing his body and mind hard at examination time.

Ridgeon said: "I was too tired to do anything, so I devised a survival plan. I wouldn't dare warm up for races, I just touched my toes and set off."

Ridgeon continued to compete at well below his normal level and came fifth in the Olympic final. With the help of an elaborate homeopathic medicine programme he recovered within months.

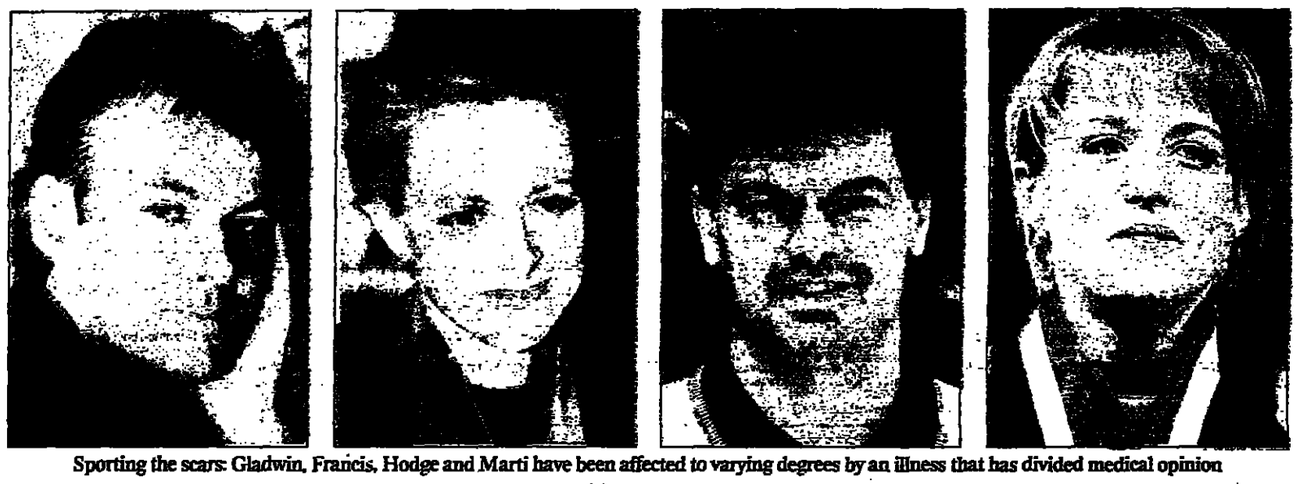
Like Ridgeon, Marti battled through ME. She kept her place in the British team while she struggled with the disease between 1985 and 1990 by feats of self-discipline. "I've had to sacrifice many things," she said.

Two years ago, Marti, now 24, felt much better after a winter break, and last year reached the Olympic final at Barcelona, but she has been hardened by her long fight. "I get really cross with people who say they've got ME just because they catch a cold," she said. "They don't know the half of it."

MIKE WILKINSON



Let off lightly: Provan, the former football player who has recovered to lead a "fairly normal" life, plays with his daughter, Kelley



Sporting the scars: Gladwin, Francis, Hodge and Marti have been affected to varying degrees by an illness that has divided medical opinion

RUGBY UNION

Pilgrim ban reopens old wounds

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

THE two rugby codes, union and league, are going through one of their periodic bouts of infighting as a consequence of Steve Pilgrim's disqualification from rugby union. It is an opportunity for moralising, which neither code is slow to grasp, though whether it should occupy parliamentary time, as some rugby league protagonists think, seems debatable in the extreme.

The crux of the matter is whether any organisation has the right to lay down rules concerning its own governance. Since it does (otherwise there would be even greater chaos than there is), it behoves those who become involved with the organisation to be aware of the rules and the consequences involved in their breach.

Pilgrim, the Wasps full back who played for England B in 1989, played in a rugby league trial match contrary to rules laid down by the International Rugby Football Board — not the Rugby Football Union (RFU), which had no choice in the matter of a penalty — and thus disqualified himself from rugby union for a year. Whether this constitutes a "constraint of human freedom", as the Rugby Football League has claimed, seems doubtful.

It is, though, unwise for rugby union officials to dismiss the subsequent furore as just another case of rugby league seeking publicity for a sport which, in nearly 100 years, has failed to establish itself in more than a handful of countries.

The concept of amateurism central to rugby union has been so strained, particularly during the past three years, that the application of a rule to a player who has received no money for appearing in a rugby league trial is difficult to justify in public terms.

"We probably supply more players to rugby league than any union in the world," Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said yesterday. "If Steve Pilgrim, or anyone else, chooses to take that road, good luck to them. But we are constantly approached by former rugby league players wanting to come back.

"Amateurism is vital to the nature of rugby union as it is. That's not to say that at some future date it won't change. But this regulation has been in force for some years now and if we receive proof of any abuse of it, then we will act immediately — as we would over any breach of the amateur regulations."

☐ An early day motion on the Steve Pilgrim affair was signed yesterday by 19 MPs (Christopher Irvine writes).

David Hinchcliffe, MP, the secretary of the 70-strong parliamentary rugby league group, is to press Gerald Kaufman, the chairman of the Commons national heritage select committee, for an enquiry into whether public subsidies received by the RFU through government departments, the Sports Council and the Foundation for Sports and the Arts should continue in the light of what Hinchcliffe said was "blatant discrimination".

Doug Laughton, the Leeds coach, has yet to make up his mind about Pilgrim's possible progress into league, but said he thought the player had an irrefutable legal case for constraint of freedom in the European Court of Human Rights.

Andrew's kicking skills sway Wasps selectors

ROB Andrew, the England stand-off half, will make his first league appearance for Wasps for nearly 15 months when he plays against London Irish at Sudbury on Saturday (David Hands writes). His presence in the team was assured only by the disqualification of Steve Pilgrim.

Andrew has not played a competitive game for Wasps since his unexpectedly early return from Toulouse in October, because of the enforced re-eligibility period. Though he played divisional rugby in December, the break has not helped his international form.

He gains a place, however, at the expense of Adrian Thompson, whose tactical play has helped Wasps to the leadership of the first division. The deciding factor for the club selectors was Andrew's goal-kicking ability now that last season's leading points scorer, Pilgrim, is ruled out by his appearance in a rugby league trial game.

"We might well, in morale terms, loyalty to the team and general attitude, have played Thompson but the decision was taken away by Pilgrim's disqualification," John Gasson, the club spokesman, said. "Without him we have lost our front-line goalkicker. Adrian has been spoken to by the captain and coaches and is aware of all the implications."

McEvoy to pay price for punch-up

By Richard Eaton

MALCOLM McEvoy is likely to miss Warrington's table tennis rematch with Vymura, of Cheshire, after receiving a three-month suspension for his part in a punch-up during the original fixture in November.

McEvoy and Neil Gravener, who was censured by the English Table Tennis Association, came to blows after only ten minutes of their match in the second division (north) at Runcorn. There is a history of bad blood between the two clubs, who play in the Liverpool league.

McEvoy and Gravener began verbal sparring almost from the start of the game. Gravener decided not to complete the contest, shook hands with the umpire and told his opponent he could have the match. McEvoy thought little of that and the ill-feeling boiled over, with the pair having to be separated by team-mates.

The incident was unfortunate for the British League, not just because of table tennis's increasingly up-market image. The sequence of events will hardly have delighted the league's sponsor, Friendly Hotels.

Officials hope that with the matter resolved, the sport's cheerful image will be restored at the rematch, which will be arranged soon.

ATHLETICS

Germany wants to reduce drugs ban

By John Goodbody

GERMANY is proposing that the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) reduces its four-year mandatory drugs ban for taking anabolic steroids because of fears that courts will rule the suspension is too long.

The German Athletic Federation (DLV) is already under the threat of Katrin Krabbe, the world 100 and 200 metres champion, taking her four-year suspension to German civil law if she is dissatisfied by the decision of the DLV legal arbitration commission, which is expected to meet within the next six weeks.

Jan Kern, the DLV general secretary, said yesterday that it would propose at the IAAF meeting before the world championships in Stuttgart in August that suspensions for taking hormone drugs should be more flexible, ranging from one to four years, depending on the case. "Under German civil law, a four-year ban is too long for someone carrying out their profession," he said.

The IAAF increased its minimum ban for taking hormone drugs from two to four years in 1991.

Kern added: "It is possible that athletes will take cases to court again and again and we would be going from court case to court case. That would not be very good for federations. Sports rules need to match normal laws."

The threat of legal action by Krabbe has always been in the background to her two battles with the DLV against doping suspensions in the last year. Last year, Krabbe and two other former East German athletes, Grit Breuer and Silke Möller, successfully appealed against a four-year suspension for allegedly manipulating urine samples because of a legal technicality. The DLV had not written drugs-testing regulations into its regulations.

Krabbe, Breuer and Manuela Derr plan to use the same reason when they appeal against another four-year ban following a test last July for clenbuterol, which is both a stimulant and an anabolic agent in animals.

☐ Two German Olympic champions, Dieter Baumann and Heike Henkel, have decided against joining a proposed boycott of events in the world championships later this year. *(Reuter)*



Krabbe: may go to law

IN BRIEF

Buder's gold surprise

Karin Buder, of Austria, surprised herself by winning gold in the women's slalom, her first important title, at the world skiing championships in Morioka, Japan, yesterday. Julie Parisien, from the United States, collected silver, while another Austrian, Elfi Eder, was third.

Bad weather suspended Kjetil Andre Aamodt's golden aspirations when the second leg of the men's giant slalom was postponed because of gale-force winds and snow. The Norwegian led after the first leg by 0.45sec. The leg will be held today.

Boone dominant

Rackets: Willie Boone, the former world champion, won the United States amateur championship, beating John Prenn, his old rival, 3-2. Prenn, also a former world champion, started strongly but Boone fought back, remaining consistent on the lively New York court. Although Prenn levelled at 2-2, Boone hung on to win.

Foreman postpones

Boxing: George Foreman, the former world heavyweight champion, has asked for his bout against Tommy Morrison to be postponed. The match, set for April 16, will probably be held in mid-May.

Safe haven

Yachting: Bernard Gallay, in Vuarnet Watches, was towed into Port Chalmers, New Zealand, yesterday, the second competitor in the Globe Challenge race to shelter there.

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هكذا من الأصل

صكذا من الاصل

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (93039)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (83514861)
9.05 Kilroy. Topical discussion with Robert Kilroy-Silk (s) (5650346)
9.45 Ross King. Game show (s) (6411652)
10.00 News, regional news and weather (9086720) **10.05 Playdays**. For the very young (s) (6973590)
10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Anne Diamond and Nick Owen present the weekday magazine programme. Including at **11.00** and **12.00 News**, regional news and weather (s) (10187229)
12.15 Pebble Mill. Alan Titchmarsh's guests include the singer Leo Sayer, Ben Elton, Nina Myskow and Richard Jobson (s) (7788855) **12.55** Regional news and weather (98570126)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (20010)
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (87090584)
1.50 Eldorado. Monday evening's episode. (Ceefax) (s) (78049671)
2.20 Racing and Snooker: Racing from Ascot. Julian Wilson introduces: **2.30** *The Daily Telegraph* Hurdle Race; **3.05** Crispin Steeplechase Handicap: **3.35** Reynoldstown Novices' Steeplechase. **Snooker**. Dougie Donnelly introduces the match between Terry Griffiths and Steve James in the Benson and Hedges Masters from Wembley Conference Centre (7489251)
3.50 Children's BBC: The Adventures of Buzzy Bee and Friends. Nature stories (3404010) **3.55 Bitsa**. Recyling ideas (s) (8993774) **4.10 Jackanory**. Louise Lombard reads the second of a three-part story, *The Queen's Nose* (1117720) **4.25 Quick Draw McGraw**. Cartoon adventures (r) (8587126) **4.30 The Animals of Farthing Wood**. Episode six of a 13-part cartoon adaptation of Colin Dann's books (s) (316) **5.00 Newsround** (2917229) **5.05 The Return of the Psammead**. The final part of Helen Cresswell's drama series, based on the novels of E. Nesbit. (Ceefax) (s) (8101519)
5.35 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (578403). Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Chris Lowe. (Ceefax) Weather (381)
6.30 Regional news magazines (861). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) **7.00 Eldorado**. (Ceefax) (s) (4768)

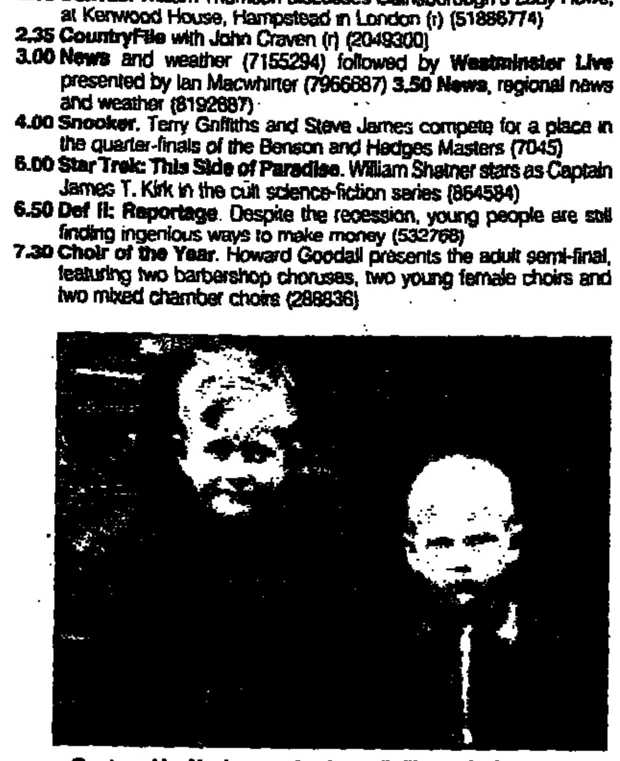


Teamwork: Stableford, Bellingham, Hann, Pryce (7.30pm)

7.30 Tomorrow's World. Judith Hann reports from Angkor in Cambodia on the controversy raging among archaeologists as to how, and by whom, this ancient city should be restored. With Howard Stableford, Kate Bellingham and Carmen Pryce.(Ceefax) (s) (395)
8.00 The Detectives: Teed Off. Jasper Carrott and Robert Powell star as DCs Louis and Briggs in this comedy series spin-off from the *Canned Carrott* sketch. The bumbling sleuths investigate Johnny McKenna, played by Jimmy Tarbuck, a keen golfer and suspected arms dealer. Tony Jacklin plays himself. (Ceefax) (s) (6316)
8.30 Victoria Wood: Over to Pam. Julie Walters stars as a highly strung presenter of daytime television in Victoria Wood's comedy play, first shown in 1989. (Ceefax) (2923)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. Regional news and weather (5855)
9.30 Clive James — Fame in the Twentieth Century. Clive James explores the nature of fame during the sixties. Featuring archive film of John F. Kennedy, Marilyn Monroe and the Beatles (181671)
10.20 Sportsnight. Desmond Lynam introduces **World Championship Boxing**: Riddick Bowe defends his WBA and IBF titles against Mike Dokes at Madison Square Garden, New York; **Football**: Highlights from north and south of the border. In Scotland, the fourth-round replays of the Tennents Scottish Cup. In England, the Premier League. Plus action from this week's matches in the quarter finals of the Italian Cup; **Snooker**: Benson and Hedges Masters, featuring Jimmy White; **World Skiing Championship**: The women's giant slalom and the men's super giant slalom in Japan (657855)
12.20am Weather (3506782). Ends at **12.25**
2.15-3.15 BBC Select: Accountancy Television (476966); **4.00 TV Edits** (2609463). Ends at **4.50**

BBC2

6.45 Open University (4282836) **8.00 Breakfast News** (5424584)
8.15 Westminster. Parliamentary update (2753836)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes (16070749)
2.00 News and weather followed by **You and Me** (51701039)
2.15 Canvas. William Thomson discusses Gainsborough's *Lady Howe*, at Kenwood House, Hampstead in London (r) (51886774)
2.35 CountryFile with John Craven (r) (2049300)
3.00 News and weather (7155294) followed by **Westminster Live** presented by Ian Macwhirter (7966687) **3.50 News**, regional news and weather (8192687)
4.00 Snooker. Terry Griffiths and Steve James compete for a place in the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Masters (7045)
6.00 Star Trek: This Side of Paradise. William Shatner stars as Captain James T. Kirk in the cult science-fiction series (864584)
6.50 Def II: Reportage. Despite the recession, young people are still finding ingenious ways to make money (532768)
7.30 Choir of the Year. Howard Goodall presents the adult semi-final, featuring two barbershop choruses, two young female choirs and two mixed chamber choirs (288836)



Captured by Nazis: cousins Leon (left) and Alojzy (8.10pm)

8.10 Timewatch: The Stolen Child
● CHOICE: During the second world war about 200,000 Polish children, picked out by the Nazis as being racially valuable, were "stolen" from their homeland and taken to Germany. Their names were changed, their pasts erased and most of them never saw their parents again. Catrine Clay's film follows the stories of two children who came through, though not without emotional damage. Cousins Alojzy and Leon, then four and ten, were seized in 1942. Leon was freed by the American army, returned to Poland but found that his family had disappeared. Alojzy was adopted by a German family, thinking it was his own, and only learnt the truth years later. Alojzy and Leon were among the lucky ones. Polish children not considered racially acceptable were sent to concentration camps and left to die. (Ceefax) (889229)
9.00 M*A*S*H: Sticky Wicket. Comedy with the 4077th (r) (619126)
9.25 The Mushroom Picker
● CHOICE: Zinovy Zinik's bizarre tale moves from Moscow to London where the mousy Clea (Lynsey Baxter) sets up home in a thirties semi with her eccentric Russian hubby (Nigel Terry). He is the food nut, obsessed with meat and working on a history of Russian cooking. Poor, innocent Clea. She has to suffer not only his unorthodox gastronomic ways but his affair with her best friend. He is not the most sympathetic of characters, which makes him hard to take. But what about the mushrooms which the title has been promising us? They are a very long time coming and look as if they will not properly emerge until next week's concluding episode. It is all very puzzling. Meanwhile, this supposed black comedy continues to be notably short on humour, or perhaps it is a Russian humour which does not travel. (Ceefax) (7633519)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow (198381)
11.15 The Late Show. The arts and media magazine (s) (256039)
11.55 Weather (971126) **12.00 Panel Painting**. A 14th-century technique (10324). Ends at **12.30am**
2.00 Nightschool TV. Diez Temas (69459). Ends at **4.00**

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ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV presented by Michael Wilson and Fiona Armstrong and Eamonn Holmes. This morning's features include Holiday Snaps, Win a Holiday competition, Sporting Chance and Alarm Alert. At **8.50** Lorraine Kelly presents **Top of the Morning** (8426720)
9.25 Runway. The high-altitude quiz show hosted by Richard Madeley (9681229) **9.55 London Today** (6886010)
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion (s) (9193768)
10.35 This Morning. In today's programme, Michael Mansfield and Nicola Charles offer legal advice, and Loyd Grossman visits the kitchen of a famous chef. Including at **10.55 ITN News** headlines. **11.55 London Today** and weather (60655300)
12.10 Allsorts. Entertainment for under-fives (s) (5740805)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Ruseler. (Teletext) Weather (1030584) **1.05 London Today** (60543300)
1.15 Home and Away. Australian drama series. (Teletext) (860010)
1.45 A Country Practice (s) (869381)
2.15 The Chrystal Rose Show. Caustic talk show (957590)
2.45 Take the High Road. Drama series set in the Scottish Highlands (2032010) **3.10 ITN News** headlines (7168300) **3.15 London Today** (7165671)
3.20 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge quiz for teenagers (s) (5039652)
3.50 Children's ITV: Speedy and Daffy. Cartoon (r) (3406478) **3.55 Grotbags**. Last in the series of adventures with the wicked witch (s) (5672300) **4.15 Garfield and Friends**. Animation (r) (3275107) **4.40 Fun House**. Slapstick game show with Pat Sharp (8669774)
5.10 Home and Away. (Teletext) (r) (8195958)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with Carol Barnes. (Teletext) Weather (102519)
6.00 London Tonight. Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster present news, traffic, weather and entertainment. (Teletext) (38478)
7.00 This Is Your Life. Michael Aspel opens his red book to present a potted biography of another celebrity (s) (9836)



Obsessive: Alma (Amanda Barrie) is acting oddly (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Alma Barlow becomes obsessed with talking to local schoolchildren. With Amanda Barrie. (Teletext) (213)
8.00 The Match: Blackburn Rovers v Sheffield Wednesday. Ian St John presents live coverage from Ewood Park of the first leg of the Coca-Cola Cup semi-final. Commentary by Alan Parry and analysis from Jack Charlton (2497)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) Weather (92132) **10.30 London Tonight** (949107)
10.40 Film: Amityville 4: The Evil Escapes (1989). The horror series continues with the evil force transmigrating 3,000 miles away to California where it possesses the home of Patty Duke and her children. Directed by Sandor Stern (51879213)
12.30am The Equalizer: The Children's Song. Vigilante Edward Woodward's plans to spend a quiet weekend with his son, Scott, are disrupted by murder (48817)
1.30 Entertainment UK. Showbusiness guide (s) (97512)
2.30 The Chrystal Rose Show (as 2.15pm) (41492)
3.00 The Little Picture Show. Mariella Frostrup reviews the latest video releases, and talks to Sigourney Weaver about *Alien³* (r) (98695)
4.00 60 Minutes. American news magazine (r) (30169)
5.00 Riviera. French drama series about the de Courcey family (30879)
5.30 ITN Morning News (15879). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

5.50 Sesame Street. Early-learning series (6514671) (r)
6.45 Spiff and Hercules. Cartoon about a dog and cat (r) (9485855)
7.00 The Big Breakfast. Daily magazine show (16861)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. American comedy game show (s) (30251)
9.30 Schools (503671)
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Anne Perkins (99045)
12.30 Sesame Street. Today's guest is the basketball player Isiah Thomas (56565) **1.30 Lift Off**. Fun for children (s) (43300)
2.00 Film: The Immortal Sergeant (1943, b/w). Second world war drama starring Henry Fonda as a young corporal who is forced to take command of a patrol in Africa. With Maureen O'Hara. Directed by John Stahl (903294)
3.40 The Three Stooges in *Three Little Twerps* (b/w) (3973377)
4.00 Birdscape. In the last programme of the series, Bruce Pearson studies the barn owls of Norfolk (r). (Teletext) (942)
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (1661316)
5.05 The Wednesday Weepie. A real-life love story (1787229)
5.15 Film: My Boyfriend's Back (1989). Comedy about a sixties group who are reunited for a television show. Starring Sandy Duncan and Jill Eikenberry. Directed by Paul Schneider (s) (94022300)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow. (Teletext) Weather (424300)
7.50 Party Political Comment by a Liberal Democrat (456710)
8.00 Brookside. Merseyside soap. (Teletext) (s) (6126)



Fruitful approach: calorie-watcher Amanda Ursell (8.30pm)

8.30 Food File
● CHOICE: The BBC's *Food and Drink* would seem to make another food programme superfluous, yet *Food File* tends to reach the corners that the other show does not reach. For one thing it is more health conscious. While the Beeb's Michael Barry ladles in the cream as if cholesterol had never been invented, *Food File* tends to watch the calories. Indeed it links food and health directly, as in tonight's item on how diet can alleviate migraine. Elsewhere the emphasis is on the practical, with a regular slot on simple meals that can be prepared in a pot. Tonight it is couscous, demonstrated by a Tunisian who runs a greasy spoon caff. There is also a report on the safety of fast food. But the showbusiness approach is not neglected as Michael Caine, Barry Norman and Lord Healey talk about their favourite cook books. (Teletext) (s) (1861)
9.00 Dispatches. The current affairs programme reports from the streets of Bangkok and Pattaya on the proliferation of child prostitution, and the threat of Aids in Thailand (610756)
9.45 Snapshots: Malcolm Bradbury
● CHOICE: The novelist and academic rounds off another excellent series of short films by returning to family roots in Macclesfield. The visit gains poignancy by being his first to the area for nearly 50 years. Bradbury was brought up in London, but as a boy during the second world war he was sent to Macclesfield during the school holidays. He stayed with his grandparents, stern Victorians who believed in chapel and the temperance society and made the young man sign the pledge. He says he found them frightening and rebelled against their principles but concedes that the experience helped him as a writer. Bradbury widens his scope to reflect on four generations of family history and hints that one day he will write about it. This is a revealing little essay, which says much in a short space (841923)
10.00 The Golden Girls. Dorothy appears in court. (Teletext) (s) (90774)
10.30 Nightingales: Someone to Watch Over Me. The final episode of Paul Makin's off-beat comedy series starring Robert Lindsay, David Threlfall and James Ellis as night security watchmen (559958)
11.05 Love Weekend: Nights. The first of a five-part drama by Sarah Ann Kennedy, combining live action with animation, charting the course of true love. In *First Night*, Carol recalls her night of passion with new boyfriend Bob. With Lesley Sharp and Nick Hancock (r) (s) (385590)
11.20 Damned in the USA. A controversial documentary about arts censorship in the United States (r) (298045)
12.45am Film: Farishtay (1991). A violent Hindi drama, with English subtitles, about latter-day Robin Hoods. Starring Dharmendra and Vinod Khanna. Directed by Anil Sharma (60005701). Ends at **4.15**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 2.15pm-2.45 Gardening Time (957590) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8195958) **6.00** Home and Away (886720) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (744381) **12.35am** Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space (9855492) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4863879) **2.35** 60 Minutes (8063430) **3.30** The New Music (29643) **4.30** Riviera (66110140) **4.55-5.30** Jobfinder (9584633)

BORDER
As London except: **2.15pm** Gardening Time (957590) **2.45-3.10** Sprockets (2032010) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **6.00** Lookaround (749) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (229) **10.40** Boxing — WBC Welterweight Title (390132) **11.40** The Trials of Rosie O'Neill (799774) **12.35am** Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space (9855492) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4863879) **2.35** 60 Minutes (8063430) **3.30** The New Music (29643) **4.30** Riviera (66110140)

CENTRAL
As London except: **1.15pm** A Country Practice (860010) **1.45** Home and Away (869381) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (957590) **3.20-3.50** GP (5039652) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8195968) **6.00** Home and Away (886720) **6.25-7.00** Central News (744381) **12.30am** Film: The Eyes of Charles Sand (3450904) **1.50** War of the Worlds (4051343) **2.45** Entertainment UK (493633) **3.45** BPM (499817) **4.45** Jobfinder (9555121) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (3456362)

GRANADA
As London except: **1.15pm** A Country Practice (860010) **1.45** Home and Away (869381) **2.15-2.45** Wish You Were Here..? (957590) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **5.10-5.40** Blockbusters (8195958) **6.00** Home and Away (749) **6.30-7.00** Granada Tonight (229) **10.40** Boxing — WBC Welterweight Title (390132) **11.40** Island Son (799774) **12.35am** Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space (9855492) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4863879) **2.35** 60 Minutes (8063430) **3.30** The New Music (29643) **4.30** Riviera (66110140)

HTV WEST
As London except: **1.45pm** Blockbusters (869381) **2.15-2.45** Gardening Time (957590) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **6.00** HTV News (749) **6.30-7.00** Between Two Rivers (229) **10.40** Boxing — WBC Welterweight Title (390132) **11.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (799774) **12.35am** Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space (9855492) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4863879) **2.35** 60 Minutes (8063430) **3.30** The New Music (29643) **4.30** Riviera (66110140) **4.55-5.30** Jobs (9584633)

HTV WALES
As HTV West except: **6.00pm** Wales at Six **6.30-7.00** Trailblazers

MERIDIAN
As London except: **2.15pm-2.45** Dining in France (957590) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (749) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (229) **3.00-5.30** Freescreen (30879)

TYNE TEES
As London except: **2.15pm-2.45** Wish You Were Here..? (957590) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **6.00** Tyne Tees Today (749) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (229) **12.30am** American Gladiators (4989633) **1.20** Hollywood Report (4396053) **1.50** Videofashion (5865782) **2.20** Kojak (9226492) **3.15** Music Box (490546)

ULSTER
As London except: **2.15pm-2.45** Simply Delicious (957590) **6.00-7.00** Live at Six (38478) **10.40** World Championship Boxing (390132) **11.40** The Champions (188294) **12.10am** Pop Profile (8424965) **12.35** Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space (9855492) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4863879) **2.35** 60 Minutes (8063430) **3.30** New Music (29643) **4.30** Riviera (66110140)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: **1.45pm** Blockbusters (869381) **2.15-2.45** Westcountry Focus (957590) **3.20-3.50** A Country Practice (5039652) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (38478) **12.35am** Film: Fire Maidens from Outer Space (9855492) **2.05** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (4863879) **2.35** 60 Minutes (8063430) **3.30** New Music (29643) **4.30** Riviera (66110140) **4.55** Jobs (9584633)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: **2.15pm-2.45** Wish You Were Here..? (957590) **3.20-3.50** The Young Doctors (5039652) **5.55** Calendar (587403) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (229) **12.30am** American Gladiators (4989633) **1.20** Hollywood Report (4396053) **1.50** Videofashion (5865782) **2.20** Kojak (9226492) **3.15** Music Box (490546) **4.15-5.30** Jobfinder (8439140)

S4C
Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast **9.00** You Bet Your Life **9.30** Yegolion **12.00** The Parliament Programme **12.30pm** Slot Meithrin **1.00** Lift Off **1.30** Waterways **2.00** Film: The Pirates of Penzance (633623) **3.45** Athletiquiz (8017942) **3.55** Decisions, Decisions (6130294) **4.25** Slot 23 (8841010) **5.00** Countdown (3382) **5.30** Brookside (478) **6.00** News: Hano **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm **7.30** Ar Y Tir **8.00** Glan Hafren (6126) **8.30** News **8.55** Ta Ta Botswana (937768) **9.25** Stephen King's Golden Years (460233) **10.15** Film: The Abyss (18825923) **12.45am** Love Weekend: Nights (7367527) **12.55** The Best of the Worst (3518527)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am The DJ Kat Show (38465229) **8.40** Lamb Chops Play-A-Long (5850861) **9.10** Cartoons (8431039) **9.30** The Pyramid Game (73565) **10.00** Strike It Rich (32381) **10.30** The Bold And The Beautiful (31045) **11.00** The Young And The Restless (68294) **12.00** Falcon Crest (69316) **1.00pm** E Street (62010) **1.30** Another World (2412313) **2.15** Santa Barbara (595774) **2.45** Maude (594045) **3.15** The New Leave It To Beaver (591958) **3.45** The DJ Kat Show (5036348) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (6381) **6.00** Rescue (3923) **6.30** E Street (5313) **7.00** Alf (7010) **7.30** Family Ties (6887) **8.00** S.I.B.S. (6958) **8.30** Round Table (68497) **9.30** Hill Street Blues (47294) **10.30** Studs (32774) **11.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (52687)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am News (43590) **6.30** News And Business (183126) **9.30** ABC Nightline (48687) **10.30** Fashion TV (13403) **11.30** Business Report (10381) **1.30pm** Good Morning America (12720) **2.30** Parliament Live (42132) **3.30** Parliament Live (11010) **5.00** Live At Five (784584) **7.30** Fashion TV (596377) **10.30** Nightline (56720) **11.30** ABC World News (37107) **12.30** Fashion TV (86091) **1.30** ABC News (37508) **2.30** Those Were The Days (76548) **3.30** ABC News (71091) **4.30** Beyond 2000 (80188) **5.30** ABC News (89343)

SKY MOVIES+
6.00am Showcase (2900958)
10.00 A Girl Of The Limberlost (1990): Coming-of-age drama about a frustrated violinist (88497)
12.00 How To Beat The High Cost Of Living (1980): Comedy about crime-loving housewives (47213)
2.00pm Kona Coast (1968). A skipper seeks his daughter's murderers (29768)
4.00 Lonely in America (1990): Comedy about an Indian in New York (1213)
6.00 A Girl Of The Limberlost (as 10am) (74851774)
7.40 Entertainment Tonight (890958)
8.00 The Sitter (1991): A babysitter turns out to be psychotic (11749)
10.00 Leather Jackets (1990): Three young people try to escape their urban existence (455584)
11.35 Flesh Dance (1988): Erotica set in New York (579923)
1.10 Roger And Me (1989): Satirical documentary about General Motors (7038817)
2.40 Love Hurts (1990): A wedding prompts a tense family reunion (621343)
4.25 When Your Lover Leaves (1983): Comedy-drama about a woman wooed by a police officer (156275). Ends at **5.59am**.

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.30am King Rat (1965): Drama set in a Singapore POW camp (950565)
9.00 Prince Of The City (1981): A New York cop informs on his corrupt colleagues (190861) Ends at **12.00**

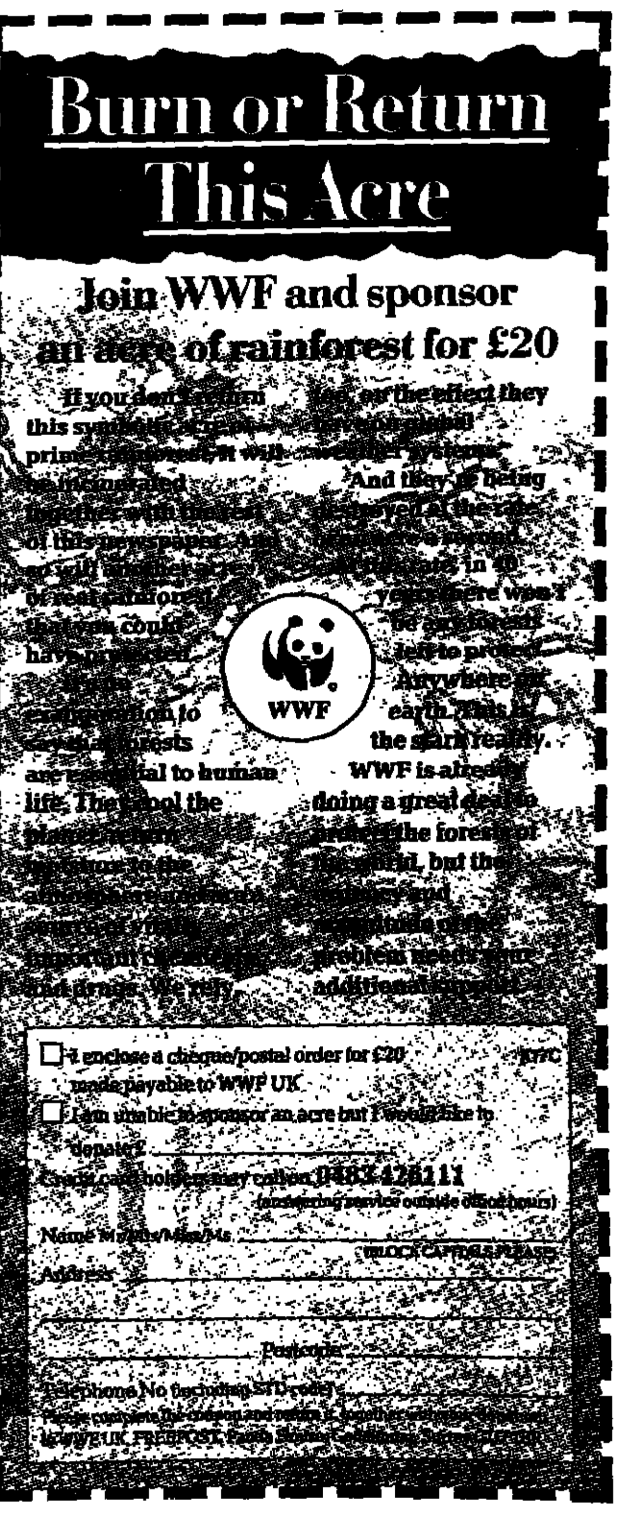
THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.15am The Talk Of The Town (1942): A girl falls for a murder suspect (103942)
8.15 The Last Hurrah (1958): A political boss seeks re-election as mayor (64351774)
10.20 Ship Of Fools (1965): Ensemble drama set on an ocean liner (74507132)
12.50pm But Not For Me (1959): Clark Gable romance (39769756)
2.40 Little Norse Prince. Animation (6459774)
4.10 Robotech II: The Sentinels (1988): Animated science-fiction (8386861)
5.35 Lies My Father Told Me (1975). A young boy in the 1920s idolises his grandfather (16276590)
7.20 Sarah, Plain And Tall (1991): Glenn Close plays a woman who brings warmth into the lives of two children (65912720)
9.00 Omen IV — The Awakening (1991): A baby girl is the anti-Christ (59890)
11.00 Crusoe (1989): Classic island adventure (422381)
12.40 MacKenna's Gold (1969): Gold-digging tale with Gregory Peck (90623483)
2.50 Red Nights (1987): A man finds vice in Hollywood (269891)
4.25 1001 Nights (1945): Epic based on the *Arabian Nights* fables (154817). Ends at **5.59**

SKY SPORTS
6.30am *Morning Stretch* (63229) **7.00** Trucks 'N' Tractor Power (12039) **7.30** Motor World (97774) **8.00** Watersports (92497) **9.00** Morning Stretch (96395) **9.30** The Footballers' Football Show (12403) **11.30** Morning Stretch (12958) **12.00** PGA Golf (454128) **3.00pm** Muscle Night (18774) **4.00** The Footballers' Football Show (9687) **6.00** Soccer News (598213) **6.03** NHRA Drag Racing (3565) **6.30** Club Show (7395) **7.00** Redline (64855) **8.00** Test Match Cricket (57519) **10.00** Soccer News (433213) **10.03** Ringside (15045) **12.00** Jack High (14879) **1.00-1.30am** Club Show (39121)

EUROSPORT
6.30am Alpine Skiing (37294) **8.00** Aerobics (46890) **8.30** Alpine Skiing (58519) **10.00** Aerobics (75748) **10.30** Eurogoals (66519) **11.30** Alpine Skiing (79861) **12.30** Athletics (85478) **2.00** Shooting (77478) **3.00** Tennis (76010) **4.30** Eurofun (7768) **5.00** Alpine Skiing (4519) **6.00** Free Style Skiing (33590) **7.00** Basketball (47010) **8.30** News (3403) **9.00** Boxing (10590) **10.30** Alpine Skiing (33478) **11.30** News (81861)

SCREENSPORT
7.00am Football Europa (27251) **7.30** White Water Rafting (95316) **8.00** PGA European Tour (90039) **9.00** PBA Ten Pin Bowling (98010) **10.00** Pro Kick (11300) **11.00** French Ice Racing (39671) **11.30** AFC-NFC Pro Bowl 1993 (52381) **1.30pm** Monster Trucks (37316) **2.00** Pro Box 1993 (50652) **4.00** French Ice Racing (7958) **4.30** Football Europe (3942) **5.00** White Water Rafting (8958) **5.30** Pro Ten Pin Bowling (37768) **6.30** Pro Kick (96923) **7.30** ATP/IBM Tennis (64590) **8.30** NBA Basketball 199293 (41331) **10.30-12.30am** Football (51316)

UK GOLD
6.00am Rainbow (38160107) **6.15** Button Moon (38274590) **6.30** Jem (1073861) **7.00** Animated Flash Gordon (3140478) **7.30** Neighbours (3152213) **8.00** Sons And Daughters (5734010) **8.30** EastEnders (5733381) **9.00** The Bill (5820861) **9.30** One By One (5563768) **10.30** Rumpole Of The Bailey (7659497) **11.30** Don't Wait Up (8220396) **12.00** Sons And Daughters (5744497) **12.30pm** Neighbours (5326942) **1.00** EastEnders (3149749) **1.30** The Bill (5325213) **2.00** Father Dear Father (7557126) **2.30** Just Good Friends (3660671) **3.00** Dallas (4620381) **4.00** Animated Flash Gordon (3651923) **4.30** Aliens In The Family (3657107) **5.00** Neighbours (7548478) **5.30** Dr Who (3744687) **6.00** One By One (5407861) **7.00** Father Dear Father (7551942) **7.30** Don't Wait Up (3658836) **8.00** EastEnders (7633590) **8.30** Just Good Friends (7556497) **9.00** Rumpole Of The Bailey (3443720) **10.00** The Bill (5745126) **10.30** Happy Families (5827774) **11.00** Dick Emery (9579687) **11.30** Film: *My Life With Caroline* (1941): Anthony Mason plays a jealous publisher (8806403) **1.00-2.00am** Video Bites (9859695)



RADIO 3

6.55am Weather **7.00 On Air**, with Chris de Souza. Including Sullivan (Overture, The Sorcerer: Scottish CO under Alexander Faris); Schubert, arr Newbould (Scherzo, Symphony No 8: Academy of St Martin under Neville Marriner); Peter Maxwell Davies (Sonata, Op 1: Hakan Hardenberger, trumpet, Roland Pontinen, piano); Tchaikovsky (Piano Concerto No 3 in E flat: Philadelphia Orchestra under Eugene Ormandy with Gary Graffman, piano)
9.00 Composer of the Week: Saint-Saëns's Years at the Madeleine. Part 3. Richard Langham Smith talks to musicologist Jean-Michael Nectoux and François Henri-Houbart, organist at the Madeleine. Ave verum (Lyon Madrigal Choir under Alain Chabrier with Paul Coueffé, organ); Bénédiction nuptiale (Daniel Roth, organ); Psalm XVIII (National Orchestra and Choir of the Ile de France under Jacques Mercier); Fantasie in E flat (François-Henri Houbart, organ)
10.05 Midweek Choice: presented by Susan Sharpe. Bantock (The Pierrot of the Minute: Bournemouth Sinfonietta under Norman Del Mar); Haydn (String Quartet in F, Op 3 No 5, Serenade: Janáček Quartet); Bach (Cantata No 151, Süsser Trost, mein Jesus Kommt: Hanover Boys' Choir, Sebastian Hennig, treble, Paul Esswood, countertenor, Kurt Equiluz, tenor, Max van Egmond, bass); Korngold (Violin Concerto in D: Pittsburgh SO under André Previn, Itzhak Perlman, violin); Rachmaninov (Fantaisie-Tableaux, Op 5: Ingryd Thorson and Julian Thurber, pianos); Khachaturian (Spartacus, Ballet Suite No 3: Scottish National Orchestra under Neeme Järvi)
12.00 Berlioz and Dvořák (r)
1.00 News
1.05 Birmingham Lunchtime Concert: live from Pebble Mill. Pianist Christian Blackshaw performs Mendelssohn (Variations sérieuses, Op 54); Schubert (Sonata in G, D894)
2.00 Record Review: Paul Guinery introduces new releases of works by Sullivan, Vivaldi, Fuchs, Martinů and Beethoven (r)
3.30 From Death to Life: Parry (Symphonic poem, From Death to Life: London Philharmonic under Matthias Bamert); Stanford (Irish Rhapsody No 6: Ulster Orchestra under Vernon Handley, with Lydia Mordkovitch, violin)
4.00 Choral Evensong: Live from Portsmouth Cathedral. Organist and master of the choristers Adrian Lucas. Assistant organist David Thorne
5.00 In Tune: Music, news and arts events with Edward Greenfield and guest the soprano Catherine Bott
7.30 London Bach Orchestra: Nicholas Kraemer and Clare Finnimore, viola, perform Monteverdi (Toccata, Orfeo); John Woolrich (Ulysses Awakes); Telemann (Suite, Don Quixote); Handel (Concerto Grosso in C, Alexander's Feast); Bach (Orchestral Suite No 3 in D, BWV 1068)
8.45 The Big Thicket: American writer Edward Swift tells the third of five stories about his childhood in Texas
8.55 Darmstadt Percussion Ensemble, with James Wood, percussion. Xenakis (Rebonds Psappha); James Wood (Rogosanti); Xenakis (Persephassa) (r)
10.05 Albinoni: In the second of four programmes, Mark Tucker, tenor, and David Roblou, harpsichord, perform Albinoni (Lontananza crudel); Handel (Suite No 4 in E minor); Albinoni (Del chiaro no)
10.45 Night Waves: The arts magazine presented by Michele Roberts
11.30 Grigori Zhislin: The Russian violinist gives his first recital on Radio 3 accompanied by Gordon Back on piano. Bach (Chaconne, Partita No 2 in D minor, BWV 1004); Prokofiev (Sonata No 2, Op 94a); Brahms, arr Kreisler (Hungarian Dance in F minor)
12.30-12.35 News
1.00-2.25am Night School (except in Scotland: as R5 at 1.05pm)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on **FM**
5.55am Shipping **6.00** News Briefing incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News; **6.45** Business News; **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.25, 8.25** Sports News; **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Midweek with birthday guest Eddy Shah (s)
10.00-10.30 Greek as a Treat (**FM** only)
10.00 Daily Service (**LW** only)
10.15 A Confession (**LW** only)
10.30 Woman's Hour: Jenni Murray invites listeners to take part in a debate with therapist Susie Orbach about our relationship with food, fat and dieting. 071-580 4444 (Lines open from **9.00am**)
11.30 Gardeners' Question Time (r)(s)
12.00 You and Yours with John Howard
12.25pm A Whole New Ball Game: Paul Parris, Desmond Barritt and Brenda Blethyn star in Martin Davies's black comedy in which Father Benedict holds a golden-oldie night **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World At One
1.40 The Archers (r) (s) **1.55** Shipping
2.00 The Miser: Carlo Ardito's English version of Carlo Goldoni's play set in Venice in 1756 and starring Bernard Hepton, Amanda Root and Daniel Massey. Don Ambrogio wants to be rid of his recently widowed daughter-in-law, but if she marries again she may take her dowry with her
2.47 More Wrestling Than Dancing: More musings from David Moreau on life's oddities 2: The Discreet Charm of the French
3.00 File on 4. Stuart Simon reports on whether President Clinton's healthcare policies will be dictated by Congress and lobbyists (r) (s)
3.42 Encounters
● CHOICE: Christopher Cook's dip into the BBC sound archives to discover what celebrities said and did when friends were admitted to their charmed circle, includes two funny and touching recollections about the composer Ethel Smythe. The scholarly Nevill Coghill recalls how the doughty dame would roar "Idiot!" and "Fool!" at him from the piano when, accompanying her on the violin, he miscounted a bar. And Vita Sackville-West, who took the near-deaf composer into her garden to hear the nightingales' song, recalls how one of them perched obligingly on her shoulder when its companions were too far off to be heard
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleidoscope: David Thompson, author of a new biography of the Hollywood producer David O. Selznik, talks to Nigel Andrews; plus a review of Woody Allen's latest film *Shadows and Fog*
4.45 Short Story: Meteor, by Stephen Amidon. Read by Stephen Moore
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Counterpoint: Musical quiz with Ned Sherrin (r) (s)
7.00 News
7.05 The Archers (s)
7.20 Face the Facts: John Waite investigates
7.45 Medicine Now: How people with gut diseases can live healthily outside hospital (r)
8.15 Counting the Cost: Brian Widlake presents the final profile of the recession's winners and losers
8.45 The Hospital: An eight-part series about life in Walsgrave Hospital, Coventry. Part 5. The infertility unit is under threat
9.15 Kaleidoscope (r) (s)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight with Roger White **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight with Alexander MacLeod
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: An Evil Cradling (3/10)
11.00 Hindsight: On the trail of the world's oldest joke (r) (s)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.30am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.43** As World Service (**LW** only)

FREQUENCIES: **Radio 1**: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. **Radio 2**: FM-88-90.2. **Radio 3**: FM-90.2-92.4. **Radio 4**: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. **Radio 5**: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LBC**: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **Capital**: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR**: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; **World Service**: MW 648kHz/463m. **Classic FM**: FM-100-102.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and **MW**. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **6.00** Simon Mayo **9.00** Simon Bates **12.30pm** Newsbeat **12.45** Gary Goes to Your Place: Bristol **3.00** Steve Wright in the Afternoon **6.00** Mark Goodier's Mega Hits **6.30** News 93 **7.00** Mark Goodier's Evening Session with Molly Halfhead and Spectrum (r) **9.00** The Steve Edwards Soul Show **10.00** Paul Gambaccini **12.00-4.00am** Bob Harris (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **5.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15am** Pause for Thought **7.00** Wake up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** Neil Kinnock **7.00** Jim Lloyd **8.00** Barn Dance **8.30** Fairport Convention: The First 25 Years **9.00** Bombay Mix **9.30** Nigel Ogden **10.15** Come Back with the Wind: Les Dawson reads from his novel (1 of 5) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Jazz Parade **12.35** Steve Madden with Night Ride **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until **7.00pm**. **6.00am** World Service: World News; **6.09** News about Britain; **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Danny Baker's Morning Edition **9.30** Johnnie Walker with The AM Alternative **11.30** BFBS Worldwide **12.30pm** Education Matters **1.05** For Schools: Topic Resources 7-9; **1.20** Dance Workshop; **1.40** Verse Universe, **1.50** Time and Tune, Music Course 2; **2.10** Drama Workshop; **2.30** A Game of Two Halves **4.30** Five Aside **6.30** The Trial of Anna Cotman by Vivien Alcock's thriller **7.15** The Secret of the Indian by Lynne Reid Banks **7.30** Gary Lineker's Football Night **10.10** Hit the North **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport **3.55** Test Match Special

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **GMT**. **4.30am** Business Report **4.40** Travel and Weather **4.45** Programmes in German **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Programmes in French **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Development '93 **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Music from the Med **8.30** Jazz Score **9.00** News **9.05** Business Report **9.15** Country Style **9.30** Travelling Tales **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** Omnibus **10.30** Jazz For The Asking **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin **Noon** News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** New Ideas **12.35** Writers in a Nutshell **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: Picnic at Hanging Rock **2.45** Good Books **3.00** News **3.15** Poets and Places **3.30** Back to Square One **4.00** News **4.15** BBC English **4.29** News in French **4.30** Programmes in German **5.00** News and Business Report **5.15** BBC English **5.30** Programmes in French **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Programmes in German **8.00** News **8.10** The World Today **8.25** Words of Faith **8.30** Europe Tonight **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.15** Sports International **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** From Our Own Correspondent **11.30** Multitrack 2 **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Back To Square One **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** Waveguide **1.40** Book Choice **1.45** The Farming World **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** Sports International **3.00** News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Assignment **4.00** News **4.15** The Farming World

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons with the Earl of Stockton **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto, Brahms (Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra), Meyerbeer (Les Patineurs, Ballet Suite) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Classic Reports with Margaret Howard **7.00** Book Browse **8.00** Classic FM Concert: Suk (Meditation on an Old Bohemian Chorale), Boccherini (Cello Concerto No 9); Dvořák (Serenade for Strings in E) **10.00** Adrian Love **1.00-6.00am** Robert Booth

COMPILED BY GILLIAN MAXEY AND STEPHANIE BILLEN
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

England's middle-order batsman ready for test of nerve against India

Hick warms to Madras task

FROM PETER BALL IN MADRAS

IF THE second Test match here tomorrow is an important one for England, it is doubly significant for Graeme Hick. If he can shake off the after-effects of ill health, it could mark the moment when Hick, who has made only 333 runs in his first 12 Test matches, finally breaks through at this level.

Hick has been victim of the virus that has hit the England party but yesterday afternoon joined the rest of the team for nets in the sweltering heat of the Chepauk stadium. The likelihood is that he will be fit and that England, for the first time on the tour, will have their full complement of players available. The main doubt was removed when Phillip DeFreitas recovered from his stomach trouble.

Any prediction that Hick will finally succeed must be tentative. He has consistently struggled to reproduce his prolific county form in Tests, and last summer there were times when he seemed to have been picked for his fielding. In the first Test in Calcutta, where he scored one and 25, he produced another reason for his selection, taking five for 28 in the match with his off spin. More important, there were signs that the Worcestershire player is beginning to come to terms with the pressures of Test cricket, which seemed to have undermined him more than any technical failings against pace or spin.

"You are never going to escape from pressure, it's always going to be there when you are playing for England," he said, "but I've never stopped enjoying my cricket."

Although he is still waiting for a big innings, he looked more at ease in his second attempt in Calcutta, and he played shots with the certainty he shows for his county. His bowling has given him added confidence, and possibly another string to his bow, although Graham Gooch, the England captain, rejected any idea that Hick might be picked for his bowling.

"His bowling could develop a lot more," Gooch said. "I don't see him being used a lot at Worcester, which doesn't help. If he bowled regularly it would do a lot of good. He needs to do well with the bat, but if his bowling comes on, he'll be a useful all-rounder."

Giving batting priority is one that Hick welcomes. "I'm a batsman and I'm going to be judged on my batting," he said, "but doing well as a bowler helps me feel that I've made a contribution." That is important for Hick. An apparently straightforward character, he is more insecure and introverted than is usual in tall, powerfully built southern African sportsmen.

"I've never lost heart," he said, "because I continue to get runs in other games, in the one-day internationals and for Worcestershire. But at times I thought about things too much and worried about things too much."

It reached the point where he talked to the adviser David Gower used for motivation after he had been dropped from the England team and suffered his appalling summer with Hampshire in 1991. That helped Hick to reaffirm the need to think positively, although he still believes that some people are not reconciled to him playing for England. "People are quite happy to see you fail," he said.

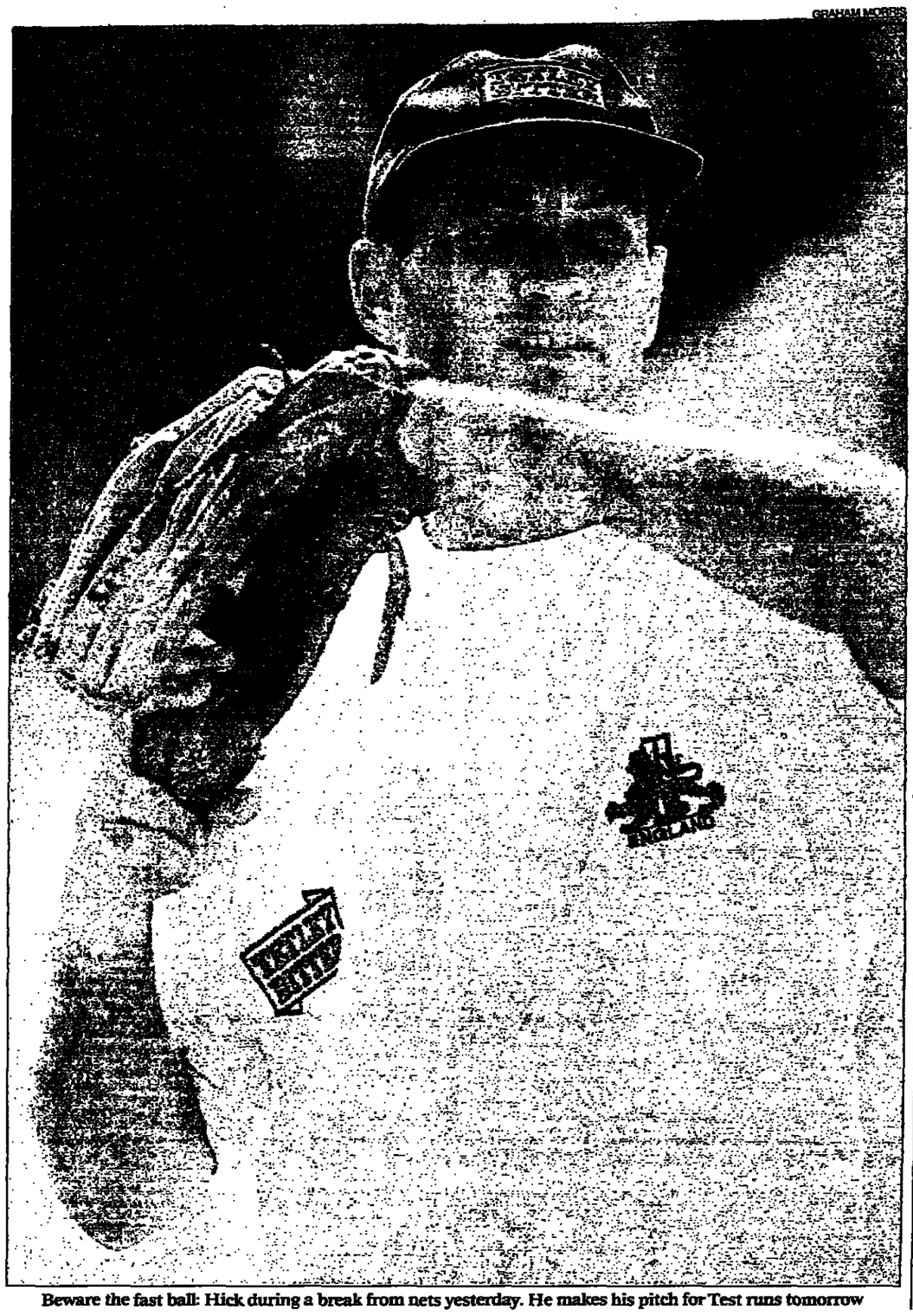
"That feeling and the support from being part of the group makes me enjoy touring more than home Test matches. In England, you arrive on your own at 12 o'clock, two days before the game, you practise, you play and then you go away again. And in the evenings everyone goes off doing different things, meeting different people. On tour, everyone is together, you eat together and do the same things together."

If that is helping him feel more relaxed, so has the return of Mike Gatting, who waited 53 innings before scoring his first Test century, against India in Bombay in 1984-5, and then promptly followed it with 207 in Madras. "One big innings is not going to make my career," Hick said, "but it will help get it under way. I don't want to get a hundred then have to wait 18 months for the next."

Cork's appeals, page 32

Bill Athey, 35, the former England batsman, has been offered a three-year contract by Sussex, subject to the approval of the Test and County Cricket Board. Athey began his career with Yorkshire before moving to Gloucestershire.

GRAHAM MORRIS



Beware the fast ball: Hick during a break from nets yesterday. He makes his pitch for Test runs tomorrow

England adopt new look as FA signs £15m kit contract

BY LOUISE TAYLOR

THE England football strip is being revamped after the Football Association yesterday signed a £15 million kit contract with Umbro.

The Cheshire-based company is thereby extending its present agreement with England until 1999 and will pay the FA a £1 million bonus if Graham Taylor's team wins the World Cup in the United States in 1994.

In return, the contract gives Umbro exclusive rights to supply playing and training clothing to England and the rights for highly lucrative replica sales on a worldwide basis. Adults will need to part with £65, their children £45, if they wish to buy replicas of the kit worn by the England team.

Trevor Phillips, the FA's commercial director, said: "This contract extension will bring significant funds into the Football Association which can be channelled into the grass-roots of the game." Umbro believe it to be the most lucrative deal of its kind in world football.

Phillips said he had been negotiating the contract for the last five months. "Agreeing it was hard and tough, but enjoyable," he said. "I am really pleased with this one because whereas the old contract was worth around £1 million a year, this is valued at £2.5 million a year.

Similarly, under this one, England will get an extra £1 million for winning the World Cup and £250,000 for qualifying for the finals in the United States, whereas under the previous agreement the bonus for winning the competition would have been £150,000.

"Aside from the financial side of the deal, we are taking steps to protect our designs from cowboy imitations which have cost us a lot of money in the past.

"Anyone who tries to copy the kit will be legally hurt. We want to be in the same position as the NFL and NBA in the United States, whose products no one dares attempt to imitate cheaply."

The new strip will be worn by England for the first time in the World Cup qualifying tie against San Marino at Wembley next Wednesday. It features old-fashioned "baggy style" navy blue shorts — a significant change in style for Stuart Pearce, the England captain, who favours a shorter cut — with a red trim, with extra badges and logos included on the shirts.

Kit manufacturing companies are frequently criticised for changing their designs and thereby putting pressure on supporters to invest in the lastest verison. Yet Umbro stressed yesterday that this was the first change to the England strip in three years and the company has guaranteed there will be no further alterations for the same period.

While Phillips said that much of the money generated will be directed to the game's grass roots — coaching schemes, women's football and schools football — he also said that a percentage would be invested in the England squad. "They are the peg that the sponsorship hangs on. Without them, there would be no grass roots," he said.



Pearce: changed strip

"To get the most out of this sponsorship, I need the players to promote it and the kit and because of this some of the money will end up in the England players' pool. I am very satisfied with this contract. It is something I very much wanted to bring about when I joined the FA last summer."

San Marino team, page 34

Britain's tennis hope takes case to higher court

BY ANDREW LONGMORE TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THREE television crews and a host of journalists will flock to Eastbourne today to witness the unveiling of that most English of sporting myths, the future Wimbledon champion. The object of attention will be James Baily, from Hampshire, a broad-chested six-footer, who became the first British junior grand slam champion for 27 years when he won the boys title so impressively at the Australian Open ten days ago.

Today, at the age of 18 years and nine days, Baily will take his first step into the senior ranks by playing in a $50,000 satellite tournament, the lowest form of life on the ATP Tour.

The first leg of the four-week tournament is staged at the David Lloyd centre in Eastbourne and Baily's quest over the next month will not be for fame or glory, though he has already had his share of both, but computer points, the staple diet of the professional tennis player's life.

As Baily will find out all too soon, the competition to get a foot on the bottom rung is far more cutthroat than for $1 million tournaments contested by multi-millionaires at the top of the tennis ladder.

If Baily is unaware of the expectations his success has aroused — and an appearance on BBC's *Sportsnight* must have given him a clue — he might well heed the words of one of his predecessors in the role of Great White Tennis Hope, Gerald Battrick.

Battrick was the last British junior grand slam champion. In 1965, he beat Manuel Orantes and Zelko Franulovic on the way to winning the French Open junior title on clay. Battrick went on to play Davis Cup for Britain and enjoy a fruitful, if not exactly spectacular, career in the game.

Now aged 45, he runs a private tennis school near Bridgend in south Wales and, after his own experiences, is understandably cautious about Baily's prospects of succeeding in the big time.

"It is going to be really tough for him because everyone in this country is desperate for a young player to come through, and the gap between juniors and seniors is enormous. The Australian Open juniors might prove to be his best tournament, but winning that title will give him confidence," Battrick said.

Battrick recalls driving back from Paris immediately after his 1965 victory to play Tom Okker in the opening round of the Manchester Open the next day. "It was easier to make the change for me because I could get straight into senior tournaments.

"Nowadays, it is all to do with rankings and the competition is very strong. I just hope the media don't put too much pressure on him."

Besides all the attention, conditions in Eastbourne will be far removed from those in Australia. The surface will be quicker, the light worse, the opposition wiser and the expectations greater. But, though he might have been better off making his senior debut further away from the limelight, Baily will have to be baptised one day and maybe sooner is better than later.

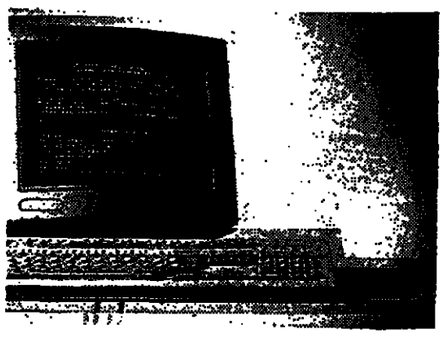
Battrick, who did not have the weight of shot to compete at the highest level, has no regrets about the way his career progressed. He joined World Championship Tennis in the Seventies and later coached profitably in Hamburg before returning to his father's farm to establish his own tennis centre with one indoor and five outdoor courts.

"I got out of the game what I could for someone of my size and stature and I enjoyed it. James [Baily] has a lot of determination and he will need it. But people shouldn't expect too much too soon."



Beyond his reach: Battrick lacked the weight of shot to prosper among the senior players

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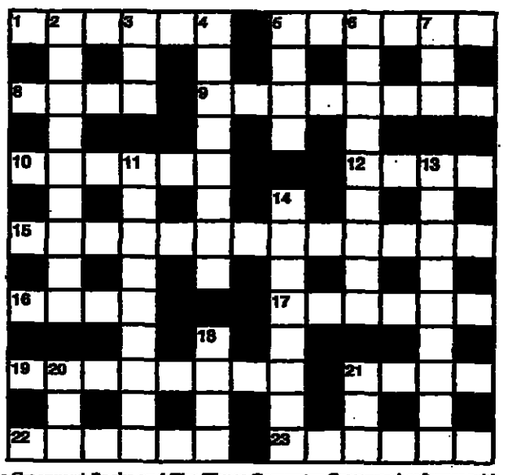
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Times Crossword No 3017

ACROSS
1 Fat belly (6)
5 Drugs dealer (6)
8 Arm, leg (4)
9 Rabble (8)
10 Parchment roll (6)
12 Smooth-tongued (4)
15 George IV wife (5,8)
16 Pack (4)
17 Three times (6)
19 Lycanthrope (8)
21 Glimmer (4)
22 Insubstantial (6)
23 Posted missive (6)

DOWN
2 1415 longbow battle (9)
3 Crux (3)
4 Misfortune (4,4)
5 Quick gust (4)
6 Stray (9)
7 Mischevious being (3)
11 Engulf (9)
13 Blamelessness (9)
14 Appreciative (8)
18 Warm and snug (4)
20 Slipppery type (3)
21 Not dry (3)



SOLUTIONS TO NO 3017

ACROSS: 1 Pooper scooper 8 Act up 9 Yoko Ono 10 Lee 11 Taiga 12 Someone 14 Eyelet 16 Sprats 20 Absolve 23 Retch 24 Hog 25 Trouble 26 Ousel 27 Richard Wagner

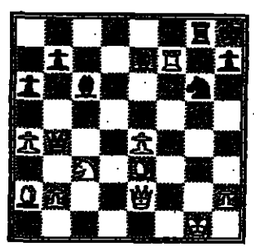
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Chess

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Kamorik — Gonsoir, Czechoslovakia 1992. Black has terrible threats against the white king and so white must act quickly. How did he continue?



Answers page 3

Word Power

By PHILIP HOWARD

SOLENOGLYPH
a. Shadow writing
b. A Mayan carved sundial
c. A poisonous snake

KEYAKI
a. A code of wrestling
b. Edible worms
c. A pale timber tree

DAMBO
a. A grassy clearing
b. A double pulpit
c. A rice dumpling

PRZEWALSKI
a. A sneeze
b. The Polish waltz
c. A wild horse

Answers on page 32

هكذا من الأصل